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'Gulf' narrows

Rafsanjani, Velayati see peace

NICOSIA, July 4, (AP): Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani said today Iran and Iraq have moved closer to peace after a direct dialogue between their foreign ministers, the first such meeting in the 10-year-old conflict.

Speaking in an interview with the official Islamic Republic News Agency and state-run Tehran Radio, Rafsanjani said: "What is clear to me is that we are now closer to peace compared

to two months ago."

"The confidence of the two countries in the fact that the other side desires peace has become relatively greater," Rafsanjani added without elaboration.

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar hosted the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq, Ali Akbar Velayati and Tariq Aziz, to a meeting in Geneva yesterday.

Keynote in Opec talks

Be flexible

ALGIERS, July 4, (Reuters): Key Opec leaders stressed a willingness to be flexible today as they began crisis talks on rescuing oil prices from the latest glut.

The president of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Algeria's Sadek Bousensa, met in Algiers with the oil ministers of Kuwait and Indonesia in preparation for a crucial conference in Geneva on July 25.

A glut blamed on output quota violations by several members has resulted in prices falling about one-third this year.

Indonesia's Guntur Kartasasmita said at Algiers airport he thought the slide had "reached the bottom, more or less," but agreed that much may depend on whether Opec reaches an accord on production quotas in Geneva that all members would observe.

Kuwait and UAE have both been demanding that they get higher quotas in any new accord. Others including Iraq, Iran and Algeria first want existing accords obeyed to revive average spot market prices at least to Opec's declared target of \$18 a barrel, compared with below \$14 now.

See also Page 13



All in smiles

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev shares a laugh with delegates yesterday during a break in the session of the Soviet Communist Party Congress. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Shoot Palestinians'

Clandestine Jewish group's call

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 4, (AP): A pamphlet distributed to Jewish settlers urges them to shoot Palestinians and gives detailed instructions on how to obtain guns and avoid capture.

The anonymous pamphlet, quoted by the Hebrew daily Yediot Ahronot and the state-run radio today, advises settlers to gather explosives from the army, masquerade as soldiers during attacks and leave

misleading evidence behind.

It says the settlers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip should respond to stoning attacks on their cars with gunfire and should try to "hit and cause much damage." It also calls for acts of retribution against Palestinians.

"You must react to every Arab stone with secret revenge acts," the leaflet was quoted as saying. "Cause damage to Arab property."

The reports of the pamphlet came at a time of rising tension between the settlers and Palestinians who have carried out an uprising against Israeli occupation for more than 30 months.

The daily Haaretz today quoted security sources as saying stalled peace efforts may push Palestinian extremists to attack Jewish settlements.

Liberal politicians also have accused the right-wing government of encouraging radicals among the settlers.

Yediot said the pamphlets were put into settlers' mailboxes, but it was not clear how many were distributed or in which settlements. The pamphlet was not signed and the news reports gave no evidence of who printed it.

More than 130 Jewish settlements have been built in the West Bank and Gaza since they were captured from Jordan and Egypt in the 1967 Middle East war. About 75,000 Jews live among 1.7 million Palestinians in the occupied areas.

Israel Harel, a settler leader, said he had checked eight settlements and found no sign of the pamphlets. "This pamphlet is simply not known in the settlements," he said, adding it may be a "publicity stunt" or a provocation by Arabs.

Zvi Katzover, head of the Kiryat Arba settlement in the West Bank, said the pamphlet was probably done by a "fringe group." But he added the pamphlet's advice "should not be ignored... to try and catch stone throwers at almost any price."

Politicians on both the left and right expressed fears that the pamphlet could be evidence that a new Jewish underground was forming, similar to one that targeted and killed several Palestinian leaders in the early 1980s.

Soviet envoy warns Israel

KUWAIT, July 4, (Reuters): The Soviet ambassador to the United Nations said Moscow would block the exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel if the Jewish state failed to provide firm guarantees they would not be settled in occupied Arab land.

Yuli Voronov, in Moscow for the Soviet Communist Party Congress, told the Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) that Soviet Jews would still be permitted to leave, but not for Israel.

"Jewish emigration will continue and emigrants will be allowed to leave for the United States, France, Australia or anywhere else except Israel unless it provides real guarantees not to settle them in occupied Arab land," he said in an interview published today.

Details page 9

W. Germany 4, England 3



Maradona marks victory

Argentina's Diego Maradona hugs his three-year-old daughter Yanina after his team's victory over Italy in the semifinals of the World Cup in Naples. (Reuters wirephoto)

W. Germany in final

Another shootout

TURIN, Italy, July 4, (AP): West Germany beat England 4-3 in a penalty shootout to reach the final of the World Cup after the game ended in a 1-1 draw this evening.

England's Stuart Pearce and Chris Waddle missed the penalties that let West Germany through to Sunday's game against Argentina in Rome, a repeat of the final four years ago in Mexico City won by the South Americans.

England plays Italy in Bari Saturday in the playoff for third place.

West German defender Andreas Brehme opened the scoring in the 59th minute when his shot of 22 metres was deflected by England defender Paul Parker, spinning it

over the head of scrambling goalie Peter Shilton and into the net.

England, constantly improving in the World Cup, fought back and Liner profited from defensive humming between Jurgen Kohler and Thomas Berthold and Klaus Augenthaler to nifle a cross from Parker past Bodo Illgner 10 minutes from regular time.

Both team came close to a win in extra time. England winger Waddle hit the inside of the post with a shot from 15 metres in the 105th minute and German Guido Buchwald did the same from 20 metres with three minutes to go.

The semifinal between Argentina and Italy also went to penalty kicks.

It was their first face-to-face encounter since peace negotiations were launched in August 1988, a few days after a UN-brokered ceasefire halted eight years of hostilities between the two countries.

But the indirect talks stalled almost immediately over the question of priorities. Iran insisted on an Iraqi withdrawal from territories occupied in the last weeks of the war. Iraq insisted that Iran agree first to the dredging of the Shatt Al Arah waterway, confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates, of war debris.

The common border ran down the middle of the channel before the war. In the peace talks, Iraq demanded full sovereignty over Shatt Al Arah, its main outlet to the Gulf.

Before leaving Geneva today, Velayati told reporters he was optimistic that the talks can move ahead. He said: "During the meeting we found out that Iraq and Iran, both of them, now are more flexible than in the past." But he did not elaborate.

Perez de Cuellar, who in previous talks relayed statements between the two ministers, said Tuesday's meeting was a "psychological breakthrough" though nothing "substantive" was discussed.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein sent a message to Rafsanjani through a third party in April suggesting a summit meeting. Tuesday's meeting to resolve the conflict, Rafsanjani accepted, provided preliminary meetings between experts from the two countries are held prior to the summit.

Moscow has offered to host the summit should Tehran and Baghdad agree to holding it.

Both Iraq and Iran are now more flexible in their peace negotiations and stand a better chance of eliminating their thorniest differences, Velayati said today in Geneva.

"We have found out that Iraq and Iran — both of them — are more

(Continued on Page 11)

'Bring back Tim'

Sketch of kidnapper released

BACOLOD, Philippines, July 4, (UPI): Police released today a sketch of the communist rebel leader suspected of kidnapping Peace Corps volunteer Timothy Swanson three weeks ago, military officials said.

Army Brigade Commander Jose Solquillo gave reporters a drawing of the leader of a three-member group, believed to be a rebel member of the communist New Peoples Army, who carried Swanson to his home in the town of Silay on Negros Island on June 13.

The sketch was drawn by an artist with the National Bureau of Investigation in consultation with Swanson's Filipino wife, Merle, who saw the kidnapper take her husband.

Solquillo provided a description of the man but said the man's identity has not been established. The sketch was distributed to identify the kidnappers of the 26-year-old man from Cheyenne, Wyoming, who worked on forestry and agriculture projects on Negros.

Solquillo said three farmers were questioned and released.

About 200 farmers and school children demonstrated in front of Swanson's house today, urging rebels to release the American. They carried signs saying "Bring back Tim" and "We love Tim."

Swanson was the second foreigner kidnapped in Negros, 300 miles (480 km) south of Manila, in the past five weeks.

Fumio Mizuno, 36, a training director of a Tokyo-based private organization helping rural farmers, was abducted in Negros on May 29, and remains in rebel custody.

Also today, some 500 workers and youths paraded in Manila, demanding the dismantling of US military bases in the Philippines.

See also Page 6



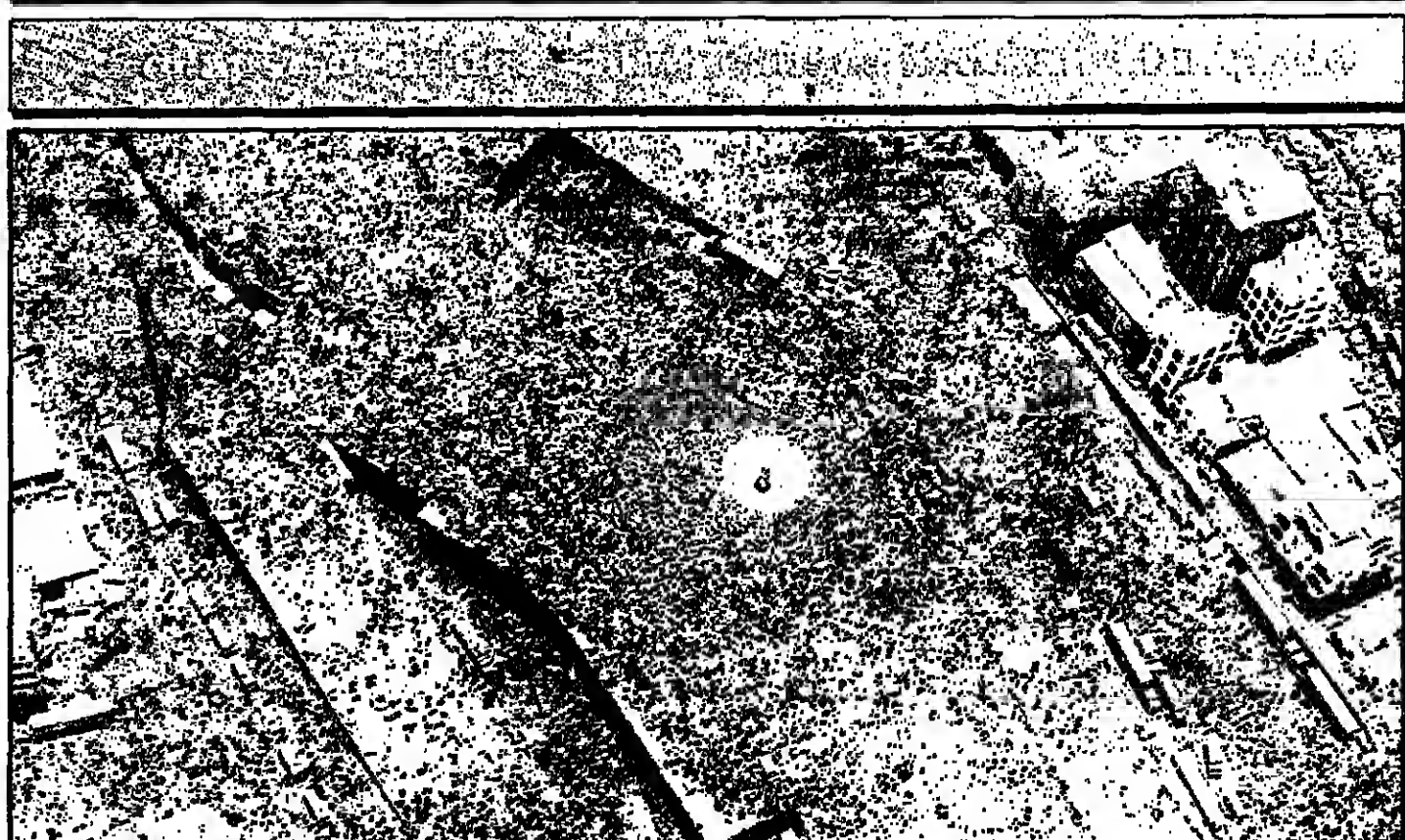
Mamma ...

American Pop star Madonna, at left, performs on stage during a concert in Paris and at right, wearing a jersey belong to Italy's World



... mia

Cup striker Roberto Baggio (15) during a press interview in Paris. She will start a concert tour in Italy next week. (Reuters wirephoto)



An aerial view of the Garam al Aqabah (stoning arena) from where the pilgrims head towards Makkah, after stoning the devil, through the tunnel. On Monday the railing on the bridge collapsed under the pressure of human tide and seven

pilgrims tumbled 8 metres off the bridge into the crowd of people coming out of the tunnel that touched off panic and stampede.

Ummah mourns tragedy

World leaders offer condolences

MAKKAH, July 4, (AP): Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims were winding up their rituals at Islam's holiest sites today as the Muslim world mourned the death of 1,426 pilgrims in a stampede in the worst pilgrimage tragedy in modern history.

Most of the pilgrims were leaving the plains of Mina by sunset and heading for Makkah to make a "farewell" circle of the Kaaba, Islam's

holiest shrine to which Muslims turn five times in daily prayer.

Part of the day's rituals also included "stoning of the Devil" for a third time at Gamarat Aqabah, to which the pilgrim victims were heading via one of several tunnels when the tragedy occurred Monday.

The Saudi authorities were setting up a large area at the holy sites for graves for victims whose families would prefer them to be buried at

Makkah. In the Islamic faith, to die and be buried in Makkah is a blessing.

Thousands moving from the Mo'asem tunnel heading up the bridge to the Gamarat Aqabah to cast their first stone at the Devil and throngs coming down toward the tunnel fused in the stampede that began when a bridge railing above the tunnel entrance bent and seven pilgrims fell upon those below.

The worst suffering was that of the pilgrims inside the 600-metre (yard) long, 10-metre (35 foot) wide tunnel, who were estimated by Interior Minister Prince Nayef at 50,000. The ventilation system went off and deaths by suffocation could have been as many as those trampled in the frenzy.

(Continued on Page 11)

How it happened

MANAMA, July 4, (AP): The 1,426 Muslim pilgrims who were crushed or suffocated to death in a pedestrian tunnel were hurrying to perform the ritual of "stoning the devil," the climax of the annual Makkah pilgrimage.

Many were running to their deaths.

What was supposed to be a joyful celebration by 2 million Muslims from around the world suddenly became the worst pilgrimage tragedy in modern history.

Saudi Arabian officials said 1,426

pilgrims perished in Monday's catastrophe when thousands of people were trapped in the 600-metre-long (yard) tunnel in a stampede, hundreds more were injured.

The month-long pilgrimage, which every Muslim is supposed to make at least once, was ending and religious fervour was high.

It was the first day of the three-day Eid Al Adha, or the feast of sacrifice, that marks the Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son to God.

(Continued on Page 11)

Poland drops treaty demand

FRANKFURT, July 4, (Reuters): Poland today dropped its demand that the two Germanys guarantee its borders in a treaty before they unite.

"Such a treaty immediately after a declaration of unification of Germany will be a good basis for the development of Polish-German relations," Polish Foreign Minister said.

The East and West German parliaments recognised Poland's present borders on June 21,

41 killed in fighting; Premadasa may dissolve Northeast Council

COLOMBO, July 4, (Agencies): Government forces clashed with Tamil rebels in two locations of Sri Lanka's eastern province, leaving at least 36 guerrillas and three soldiers dead, military sources said today.

In one encounter, the Sri Lankan Army attacked a camp of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam yesterday evening near the strategic northeastern port town of Trincomalee, 155 miles (250 km) northeast of

Colombo.

At least 18 rebels and three soldiers were killed in the fighting, military sources said. Eight soldiers were wounded and eight rebels were captured, they said.

In a second incident, military sources said the air force shot dead 20 rebels who were trying to escape by boat in the Batticaloa lagoon near the eastern provincial capital of Batticaloa, 135 miles (220 km) east of Colombo.

Military sources said an air force helicopter opened fire when those in the boat ignored orders to stop.

Thousands of people have died in ethnic violence since 1983 when Tamil militants began waging a bloody campaign to establish in the northern and eastern provinces an independent homeland for the mostly-Hindu Tamils.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa said yesterday the government would introduce draft

laws in Parliament tomorrow to dissolve the Northeast Provincial Council and hold fresh elections.

The council is at the centre of efforts by Colombo to compromise with militant groups and offer minority Tamils in the North and East a form of limited autonomy.

"Is the LTTE genuinely interested in entering

(Continued on Page 2)

Insurgency thrives on hostile terrain: Bangladesh

JURACHHARI, Bangladesh, July 4, (Reuters): With the full fury of the rainy season upon them, government troops fighting separatist tribal insurgents in southeast Bangladesh are becoming increasingly worried about supplies.

The only two helicopters available for the counter-insurgency operations in the Chittagong Hill Tracts are busy ferrying the wounded and dead, and troops must transport their weapons and provisions overland. That is seldom easy. Rains flood the valleys and loosen the earth, blocking supply routes and sometimes leaving the troops hungry for days on end.

"Life for the soldiers is going to be harder

during the next six months, especially for those camping thousands of feet above sea level," Hill Tracts army commander Major-General Abdul Salam told reporters recently. "The terrain is unkind and the people are hostile," he said. "But this is a war and we cannot quit."

More than 2,000 people, including 232 soldiers, have been killed since 1973 when the Shanti Bahini (peace force) took up arms after the government refused to grant autonomy to the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) Hill Tracts.

The Shantis believe that the area needs greater political autonomy in order to protect the tribespeople's interests from Bengali

speaking settlers.

The hill and forest region, which is home to 13 tribes, borders India and Burma and the government says the Shanti rebels operate from 28 camps inside Indian territory.

Bangladesh alleges that India is backing the Shantis and that diplomatic efforts have failed to persuade New Delhi to withdraw support and return thousands of tribespeople sheltering in its northeastern Tripura state.

"The RAW (research and analytical wing of Indian intelligence) directly controls the insurgency from New Delhi," said Brigadier Shahul Afzal.

India, however, denies that it supports the

insurgency.

"The (diplomatic) failure has left us with no other alternative than to keep fighting the rebels, mostly from the biggest Chakma tribe," said Afzal.

Salam added: "There would be no Shanti Bahini by now if they had stayed on Bangladesh soil."

Although the 17-year insurgency has lost much of its strength because more than 2,300 guerrillas have surrendered, the rebels still hold enough fire-power to engage government troops and inflict casualties.

"I was in 29 engagements in three years," Havildar (sergeant) Hasan Uddin told reporters at his Jurachhari camp.

Salam said the insurgency had been contained but not quelled, and added the soldiers would not leave the Hill Tracts until the insurgency was suppressed and a local administration in full control.

Nearly 500,000 tribespeople and over 300,000 Bengali-speaking settlers have elected three tribal chiefs as district council chairmen with sweeping powers to control local taxation, police, education and development.

Furthermore, the government has spent about \$300 million, mainly on roads and other infrastructure, to win tribal support.

But according to Pranay Chakma, a teacher in Rangamati Hill district, these concessions alone will not convince the tribespeople

to lay down their arms. "They need firm guarantees of a secured future and less dependence on handouts," he said.

Hill Tracts officials recently began resettling tribal families from remote jungle areas to newly built villages.

"This will save them from frequent tortures by guerrillas demanding money and support," said local official A.T.M. Mostafa.

He said each family in the new villages would receive five acres (two hectares) of land as well as 21 kilos (46 pounds) of rice for six weeks until they harvested the next crop.

They are also being taught how to read and write. Loans have been arranged for indigenous textile manufacture and handicrafts.

Lanka

(Continued from Page 1)

the democratic process? If so, it is now up to them to give up their faith in the bullet and trust the ballot." Premadasa told a rally.

Premadasa said the government is prepared to discuss with a newly-elected provincial council all outstanding issues.

He gave no further details, but analysts said his statement was unlikely to appease the Tigers, the most powerful Tamil group, who abandoned peace talks with the government on June 1 and began a string of attacks on army camps and police stations.

Nevertheless, they said it showed the government had not ruled out a negotiated settlement to the Tigers' latest military offensive in which at least six hundred rebels and security force men have been killed.

They noted the statement came at

a time when security forces were celebrating the success of a daring helicopter operation to rescue wounded soldiers from a besieged fort in Jaffna, the Tigers' northern stronghold.

The main sticking point in 14 months of peace talks between Colombo and the Tigers has been the government's demand that the Tigers surrender their weapons before new elections to the Northeast Council.

The Tigers had also demanded greater powers for the body.

A political analyst said the Tigers would not accept fresh elections to the council unless "it has more autonomous powers than the present system."

Analysts said it was very likely the government would compromise on its demand that the Tigers abandon arms.

35,000 flee from Jaffna fighting

North is safer

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka, July 4, (Reuters): Kathiresa Sivapackiam sits on her hospital bed gently touching the broken arm she knows she will lose to the surgeon's knife as soon as she can bear the anaesthetic.

She is aware her husband and son died in the shelling that shattered her forearm, but the nurses at Point Pedro Hospital on the northern tip of Sri Lanka cannot bear the news of her daughter's death.

"She escaped to India," they tell Kathiresa, 40.

They use that lie a lot in the small field hospitals on the Jaffna peninsula, which are rapidly filling with wounded Tamil refugees from the east.

Residents of Jaffna town, nerve centre of the Tamil secessionist movement, say 35,000 refugees have fled by boat to the rebel-held north ahead of an advancing government counter-attack against Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam separatist guerrillas.

They bring with them stories of military attacks on villagers and scare stories that the army, swollen by volunteers, is massing to annihilate all 2.5 million Tamils.

Tamils in the rebel north, where the phones have been cut off, the post cancelled and travel severely restricted, are "only too eager to believe every gory detail."

"They want to finish off the Tamils," said an elderly woman who paid Rs500 (\$12) for a boat ride from Trincomalee in the east to Mullaitivu, just south of Jaffna.

"My house was burned down," she says. "I don't know if I'll be able to go home again."

Residents of the districts said the Sri Lankan Army opened fire on a refugee boat on June 25, killing four men, two women and two children. Two others were wounded.

Ten to 15 boats full of refugees land each day on the beaches of Mullaitivu, residents say.

"There are three to four thousands (refugees) here now," a Tiger political officer in the town said. "Paddy (rice) is no problem, but apart from that we have only enough food to feed them for about three days unless supplies get through."

Officials at the Colombo office of the Commissioner-General of Essential Services, the government relief agency, said last week a shipload of supplies had been despatched to the north but no relief supplies were getting through by road.

Tiger political officials in the north said they had heard nothing about the ship.

Some supplies are arriving from India, smuggled past Sri Lankan and Indian naval patrols blockading the 12 mile (20 km) Palk Strait, another Tiger said.

Doctors at Point Pedro Hospital say the most common injuries are shrapnel wounds to the legs and arms that fracture bones and turn septic on the two-day sea journey north.

The hospital has sufficient supplies to cope with 10 to 25 such cases daily for three weeks, but amputation is often the only alternative in a region where supplies are short and equipment rudimentary, a doctor said.

"The Red Cross is getting some supplies through but we don't know if that will continue," he said.

The woman in the bed next to Kathiresa, injured in the same shelling incident outside Trincomalee on June 22 or 23, she was not sure, had her leg amputated.

Her husband and two of her four sons died when a shell hit the Selva grinding mill, outside the main town, where 500 civilians were sheltering, she said through translator.



Dimitrios in US

Patriarch Dimitrios II, the spiritual leader of orthodox Christians, praised Turkey as a bridge between East and West that can make a substantive contribution to the shaping of the changing world.

He spoke at a lunch given in his honour by Ambassador Nuzhat Kandemir of Turkey. The patriarch's visit to the United States, the first by any orthodox patriarch, is politically

sensitive because of the historic tensions between Greece and Turkey. Orthodoxy is the official religion in Greece and the patriarch, usually speaks in Greek.

Dimitrios (right) is escorted by Archbishop Lakovos, head of the Orthodox church in North and South America, following his arrival in Andrews Air Force base in America. (Reuters wirephoto)



What a sunny day!

Two polar-bears cuddle with each other on a sunny day in the Hamburg Hagenbeck zoo yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

India cut minister's travel: India, short of foreign exchange, has ordered government ministers to make fewer trips abroad but bowed to angry taxi-drivers over a ban on Sunday petrol sales.

One government statement on Tuesday announced a 20 per cent cut in ministers' foreign travel budgets and a 10 per cent cut in foreign exchange spending by the External Affairs Ministry to lessen the need for imported petrol.

Another statement said petrol stations could open for five hours on Sunday mornings because taxi drivers had protested about an all-day ban imposed last month. (Reuters)

Crash relative chided by police: The father of a victim of the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jumbo jet, who smuggled a fake bomb through London's Heathrow airport to test security, was questioned by police on Tuesday and warned to behave himself in the future.

Jim Swire, whose 20-year-old daughter Flora was one of 270 people killed when Pan Am flight 103 was blown up over Lockerbie, Scotland, was interviewed by police on Tuesday under the Aviation Securities Act, his lawyer said. (Reuters)

New kids stay atop: The new kids on the block and their "step by step" stayed on for a third straight week on Tuesday at the number one spot among best selling single pop records in the United States.

"It Must Have Been Love" by Roxette made it week number two in second position on the Cash Box magazine chart, while "Do You Remember" by Phil Collins topped one notch to third.

Last week's number three hit, "Poison" by BBD, topped to ninth.

Soaring onto the Top 10 Pop list was "Cradle of Love" by Billy Idol, up from 16th to 7th. (AP)

Elton John holds top spot: Elton John, who knocked Luciano Pavarotti off the top of the British Pop singles chart last week, held firm in first place this week with his "Sacrifice-Healing Hands."

"Nessun Dorma," Pavarotti's hit from the opera "Turandot," remained in second place. Pavarotti's rousing rendition of the piece from Giacomo Puccini's last opera shot to fame when the British Broadcasting Corp. made it the theme music for its coverage of the World Cup soccer competition in Italy. (AP)

Athenians hospitalised: A yellowish-black pall hung over the capital Athens, as pollution levels hit a record high yesterday, sending hundreds of people to hospitals with heart and respiratory complaints. (Reuters)

The thermometer reached 40 degrees C (104) in a windless day trapping the pollution over the city.

Power outages, lack of public transportation and traffic jams in the city centre brought on by a general strike added to the pollution.

More than 700 Athenians were hospitalised with smog-related problems by 11 am (0800 GMT), said an official of the Pakoc, an independent environmental watchdog agency. (AP)

Queen Elizabeth's horse dies: Queen Elizabeth's horse Burmese, made famous on millions of postcards of royal ceremony, has died in the royal mews at Windsor Castle.

Burmese was presented to the Queen by the Royal Canadian Mounted police in 1969. It was retired from major ceremonial duties in 1986, when it was 24 years old and died on Tuesday.

They said the feuding tribesmen shot at each other for three hours yesterday in Khairpur town, Sind province.

22 held over Madras killings

MADRAS, July 4, (Reuters): Indian police said yesterday they were detaining 22 members of a Sri Lankan separatist group over the killing of 15 of their rivals in an attack in Madras.

The gun and grenade attack on June 19 killed Tamil leader Kandaswamy Padmanabha, 13 other members of his Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and a civilian.

Most EPRLF leaders fled Sri Lanka for India this year as the rival Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) gained ascendancy in the Tamil-speaking north of the island, where the separatist Tigers are now battling Sri Lankan security forces.

Police said they suspected the LTTE of carrying out the Madras attack. "The arrest of the 22 LTTE men could give us some clues," police chief P. Dorai told reporters.

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Weekend VIDEO

15,000 Kashmiri Muslims stage protest on festival day

SRINAGAR, July 4, (Reuters): Some 15,000 Kashmiris demonstrated outside a United Nations office today, their Muslim Festival day of Eid, demanding that India hold a referendum on the future of their state.

The crowd gathered outside the office of a UN military observer group in the state's summer capital Srinagar. They handed in a memorandum urging a vote on whether Kashmir should be independent, join Pakistan or continue under Indian rule.

Indian security forces made no evident

attempt to stop the protest and the crowd dispersed peacefully, witnesses said.

Kashmiris have frequently tried during a six-month-old revolt against Indian rule to march to the office of the UN group, which monitors a ceasefire line dividing Kashmir between Indian and Pakistani control.

But such demonstrations have often ended in violent clashes with security forces.

Heavy rain washed out an Eid gathering called by separatist militants on a large open space in Srinagar, averting another potential

confrontation.

India's governor in Kashmir, Girish Saxena, had withdrawn security forces from most of the Idgah ground for the festival but had kept some deployed around a "martyr's graveyard" in one corner of the area, where militants bury their dead.

Saxena was appointed in May after protests by some Indian government supporters over the hard line taken by his predecessor, Jagmohan.

9 killed in Pak tribal gunbattle

KARACHI, July 4, (Reuters): Rival Pakistani tribesmen fought a gunbattle over a piece of land, killing at least nine people and wounding 15, police said today.

They said the feuding tribesmen shot at each other for three hours yesterday in Khairpur town, Sind province.

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TOKYO 東京 TOKYO 東京 TOKYO

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS

هنا امتحان

Solar-powered automobile race takes off on July 9

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida, July 4, (UPI): It will be an automobile race like no other in American history: 32 cars powered solely by the sun in a gruelling 1,600-mile (2,600-km) road rally.

Thirty-two universities from the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico have built ultra-high-tech solar cars for Sunrayce USA, an 11-day endurance run from Florida to Michigan that begins July 9.

The Florida Institute of Technology in

Melbourne has spent \$230,000 designing and building its entry.

"It'd make a nice Ferrari, wouldn't it?" said FIT team leader Doug Hahn.

"If you took an airplane wing off a 747 then rounded the tip of it and put four wheels on it, that's what it looks like," said Hahn.

The cars vary widely in design, but most are sleek, low and needle-like. Western Washington University's goes forward during the morning, when the sun is in the east, but backward

in the afternoon, when it is in the west. Each entry is covered with solar cells, the only power source allowed on board.

"We have 14,057 solar cells on the car, and at peak power, we hope to produce about 1,400 watts ... about enough to power a hair drier," said Michael Blackman, a member of the University of Michigan team, which has spent about \$800,000 on its car, the Sunrunner.

The cars are made out of ultra-lightweight

materials. The frame of the FIT car, the Sunshine Special, is made out of metal chromoly tubing that is 0.028 inch (0.071 cm) thick, Hahn said.

"The cover of a matchbook is 0.032 inches (0.081 cm) thick," he said.

FIT's car weighs 500 pounds (230 kg) with the driver on board, the Michigan car about 700 pounds (320 kg).

"It's very quiet. It appears to just glide over the surface of the earth," Blackman said.

Race director George Ettenheim said Michigan is one of the favourites to win because its cars are covered with 130 square metres of solar cells — 63 per cent more than most of its competitors.

That translates into more power and more speed.

"We expect a final top speed to be in the mid-60 (mph — 95 kph) range," said Blackman. "We've hit, I think, 57 (92 kph)." Ettenheim predicted the cars would

average about 30 mph (50 kph), primarily because of the race course, a patchwork of back highways that snake through small towns from central Florida to Warren, Michigan. The route takes the cars from Florida through Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana to Michigan.

Haleyville, Alabama, with a population of 5,306, is the smallest town that will be an overnight stop for the racers.



Soviet helicopter pilot Avialy Grishchenko lies in hospital before he died of leukaemia and heart failure on Tuesday. Grishchenko flew over the Chernobyl nuclear plant when it exploded, to try to cap the fire. He was decorated by the Soviet government for his bravery. (Reuters wirephoto)

Heroic Chernobyl pilot honoured

Flags flown at half mast

SEATTLE, July 4, (UPI): A heroic Soviet helicopter pilot who contracted leukaemia from repeated exposure to radiation while making flights to cap the radiation spewing from the Chernobyl nuclear reactor died of pulmonary failure, doctors said yesterday.

Flags were flown at half staff across Seattle to mark the death of Avialy Grishchenko, 53, who was awarded the Hero of the Soviet Union Medal — equivalent to the US Medal of Honour. He died late Monday night after being on a respirator for more than two weeks.

Grishchenko had been placed on the life-extending respirator June 15 following surgery to remove fungal lesions on his lungs. The lung problem was contracted because of a lowered immune system that resulted from his exposure to massive amounts of radiation, doctors said.

Grishchenko travelled to Seattle last April to receive a bone marrow transplant that doctors said would have saved him from

leukemia were it not for the secondary illness in his lungs.

"We regret very much that we could not do more for Mr Grishchenko," said Dr John Hansen, associate director of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Centre.

Grishchenko's Soviet physician, Dr. Eugenia Margulis, who helped him as the veteran pilot during his stay in Seattle, said the US doctors and nurses did everything possible to save the Soviet pilot.

"Mr Grishchenko had the best treatment he could have had at this centre, not only from the doctors and nurses on this staff but from the people of Seattle," Dr Margulis said, adding that Grishchenko received up to a hundred letters a day from well-wishers.

Seattle Mayor Norm Rice ordered flags on all city buildings be flown at half staff to honour Grishchenko, "a true hero, whose courage transcends national or political boundaries."

Hansen said talks were under way between

centre doctors, Soviet doctors and government personnel from both nations to help train Soviet physicians and equip a new Soviet centre for treatment of patients exposed to radiation at Chernobyl.

Hansen also said officials from the two nations were discussing when Grishchenko would be returned to the Soviet Union, but indicated his body would most likely leave Seattle on Friday.

Hansen said Grishchenko, who had suffered acute radiation sickness soon after his exploits at Chernobyl, had gone for months with a diminished white blood cell count — much lower than the normal bone marrow transplant patient.

"For this transplant to have been under the optimal conditions, it should have been done last fall," Hansen said.

Grishchenko had surprised doctors for more than two weeks with his struggle to live on a respirator, said Susan Edmonds.

Woman slays addicted son

Neighbours demand her freedom

MARSEILLE, France, July 4, (AP): About 2,000 residents of a town near Marseille have signed petitions demanding the release of a woman jailed for killing her son, who reportedly had forced her to finance his drug addiction.

Anne-Marie Siano, 49, has been jailed since June 22, five days after she allegedly shot dead her 25-year-old son, Dominique, in the town of Allauch.

Among those signing the petition in the past few days were Mayor Roland Poinvillat, members of the town council, and co-workers of Mrs Siano, who worked in the mayor's office.

Calvin breaks rib from horse fall

NEW YORK, July 4, (Reuters):

Fashion designer Calvin Klein was thrown from a horse yesterday while riding on Long Island and was being treated in hospital for cuts to the head and broken ribs, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Klein, 47, was thrown from his horse while riding yesterday afternoon in Bridgehampton, New York, not far from his summer home in East Hampton. He was initially treated at Southampton Hospital and then transferred by the helicopter to New York Hospital in Manhattan.



New survey of cars

Cressida best

WASHINGTON, July 4, (Kuna): The highest-quality American-built car, to the possible surprise of many Americans, is a Toyota Cressida.

According to a new survey of the most trouble-free automobiles created by J.D. Power Associates, an American public relations firm, owners of the 1990 Cressida had fewer troubles in their first 90 days of ownership than those driving any other make.

Among other findings — sure, like this one, to be quoted heavily by Toyota dealers — are:

- The most trouble-free car overall made in the US is Toyota's Compact Camry. It placed third overall, behind the firm's Cressida and Germany's Mercedes-Benz "E" series autos.
- The Toyota brand itself ranked number three, behind only Lexus and Mercedes-Benz.

(Cressidas are built in Japan and Mercedes Benzes in Germany, but 85 per cent of Camrys sold in the US are built at the Toyota plant in the US State of Kentucky).

Meanwhile, America's Buick continues its status as the only one of America's "big three" automakers to make it into power's influential car survey.

The Buick Le Sabre, for example, surprised many analysts by selling very strongly against Japanese models, considering that in recent years the Japanese have seemed to win the quality wars, while American carmakers suffered for their reputation for sloppy work and poor repair records.

The power survey, which has been done for some 20 years, includes detailed questions to car owners on things like engine performance, rattles, leaks, finish, handling and electrical systems reliability.

Princeton clubs must admit women: court

TRENTON, New Jersey, July 4, (AP): Two male-only eating clubs at Princeton University must end a century-old tradition of excluding women and open their doors to the opposite sex, the state's highest court ruled.

The state Supreme Court rejected arguments by the Ivy Club and the Tiger Inn that they were private entities separate from the Ivy League University and not subject to the state's anti-discrimination laws.

"It would be disingenuous for the clubs to assert that they could ever exist apart from Princeton University," the seven-member court said in a unanimous

opinion. "The clubs gather their membership from Princeton and, in turn, provide the service of feeding Princeton students."

Because of this, the clubs lack the distinctive private nature that would exempt them from discrimination laws, the court said yesterday.

The ruling stems from an 11-year-old sex discrimination case brought by Sally Frank, a former Princeton student who is now a professor at New York Law School in New York City.

"I'm really thrilled," Ms Frank said from Washington, DC. "I'm glad that the court decided to stop discrimination at Princeton."

Smoking: quit on your own

WASHINGTON, July 4, (Kuna): A new study published here yesterday suggested that people who want to quit smoking may have better luck by toughing it out on their own than joining a stop-smoking programme.

The study, which analysed data from a 1986 survey of 13,000 smokers by the US Department of Health and Human Services found that those who quit on their own were nearly twice as successful as who used organised programmes.

But the study which was published in the Journal of the American Medical Association said that cessation programmes, which attract about 10 per cent of those who try to quit, play a "critical role" in treating heavier smokers who have tried to quit and failed.

"The average cigarette smoker takes about two or three attempts to quit smoking. Even if they fail the first time, they need to be encouraged because ultimately they can succeed," the study said.

According to the data, nearly 47.5 of those who managed to quit did so on their own, compared to 23.6 per cent who enrolled in stop-smoking programmes.

The study also found that successful quitters tended to be better educated, while those who relapsed tended to be younger.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

SANTA FE, New Mexico: Governor Garrey Carruthers has rejected a writer's request that Billy The Kid, notorious outlaw of the Wild West era be pardoned for his role in the 1878 shooting death of Sheriff William Brady.

A letter is being prepared telling author Opal Lee Priestley, of Las Cruces, of the governor's decision. B.J. Wagner-Adam the governor's administrator of pardons and traditions, says Ms Priestley is the author of Billy The Kid: The Good Side of a Bad Man.

Hundreds of living people have clemency cases pending with just six months left in the Carruthers administration, said Ms Wagner-Adam.

She said a full investigation of all facts surrounding the case would be impossible because it happened so long ago.

"There's such a volume of information out there and so much we don't know," she said.

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida: No one knows exactly what is attacking bathers along a 60-mile (100-kilometre) stretch of Florida's Atlantic Coast, but the so-called Sea Lice has left beachgoers with nasty red welts on their bodies.

Despite the name, health officials are not certain that insects are to blame.

Jack Nolan, of Palm Beach County public health unit's epidemiology group, said all officials know is the rash occurs most often between April and July.

Each spring and summer for the past decade, unsuspecting swimmers from Deerfield beach to Jensen beach have returned home to have their bodies erupt in welts that look like insect bites and itch like poison ivy.

"It's itchy. It's uncomfortable, and my daughter ran a temperature with it," said Mary Morgan of Boca Raton. "We do like the beach, and we'd like to go back. But we're a little leery until we know what this is," (AP)



Spoonful of coffee

Kassim, a seven-year-old yellow crested cuckoo, uses a spoon to drink his cup of coffee as trainer Mesahah Alimen looks on (yesterday) during a bird show at Malaysia's National Zoo. Mesahah took three months to train Kassim to use the spoon, who will only now perform the trick if given a cup of coffee. (Reuters wirephoto)

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida: Cleveland Cavaliers centre, Brad Daugherty proclaimed his love from the skies when he wed his 19-year-old bride.

The couple rode to the reception Sunday in a white, horse-drawn carriage as a banner plane overhead announced, "I love you Heidi. Love Brad."

Daugherty met his future wife, Heidi Rose, when she served him lunch at a local restaurant a year ago. He liked her so much he moved to her hometown.

"I love the area, the beach," said the beaming groom, 24, after the wedding at the First Presbyterian

Church. "It's so warm and pretty here." (AP)

ARLINGTON, Texas: Herb Viegas is a cycling ham — a ham (amateur) radio operator, that is.

The 60-year-old Viegas cycles long distances and talks to people even farther away at the same time with the ham radio he installed on his bicycle.

He said he surprises and confuses some of those he reaches as he rides along and sends out his greeting: "Hello, this is WJS, bicycle mobile."

With his bicycle radio, he has talked to people as far as New York

and Minnesota.

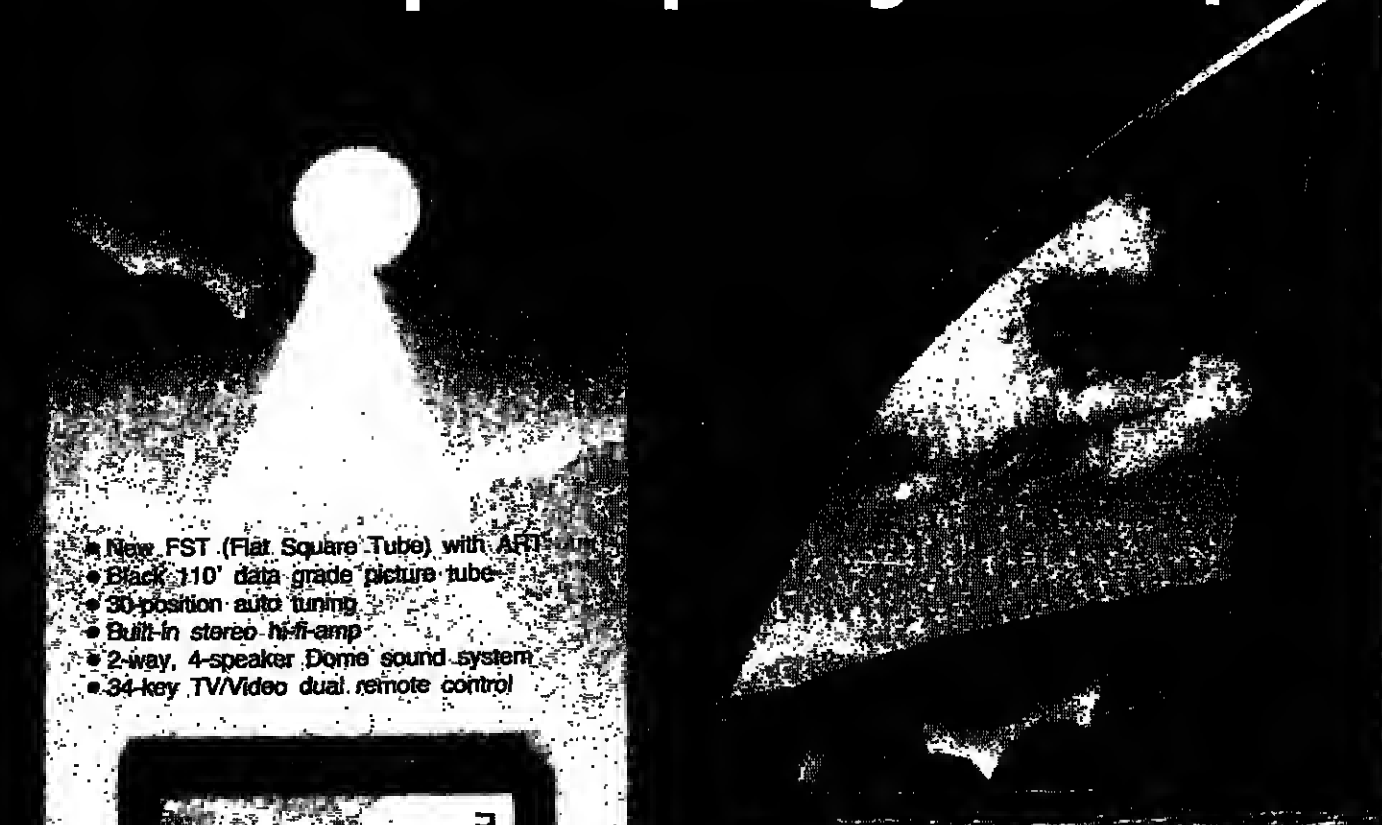
"I put out a pretty good signal, and the guys hear me, and I get a pile of them wanting to talk to me," Viegas said.

Shortly after retiring from LTV Corp. about 10 years ago, Viegas took up cycling. He also began tinkering in his workshop at home.

"I decided that I didn't want to spend all of my time in there," he said. "So I thought that I would try to rig a ham radio for my bike."

Viegas had to figure out what kind of regulator to use for the voltage provided by a generator on the back tyre of his 12-speed.

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INTERNATIONAL

Environ bid for Third World

WASHINGTON, July 4. (Opecna). The newly-appointed head of the United States Agency for International Development (AID) has announced a sweeping environmental effort aimed at helping developing countries understand and formulate policies that will promote the rational use of their resources.

"We do not regard this new environmental initiative to be a panacea," agency administrator Ronald Roskens said in a luncheon address to the World Resources Institute. "Rather, it is a thoughtful, focused, proactive approach towards ensuring that AID's limited resources are expended as effectively as possible."

He said that in the fiscal year ending Sept 30 1991, the agency would concentrate 75 per cent of its environmental funds in three main areas:

— Helping developing countries formulate economic policies that encourage conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources.

— Improving environmental education and training services for both AID and host-government personnel.

— Addressing the most pressing environmental concerns in each of the regional areas in which AID operates.

New

To fund this new initiative, the agency is seeking a 30 per cent increase in its environmental budget — from \$286 million in the current fiscal year to \$370 million in fiscal 1991. The agency spent 268 million on environmental programmes in fiscal 1989.

The move necessitates hiring an additional 60 environmentalists over the next three years and training a minimum of 100 current staff members in environmental matters.

It also seeks to establish two "centres of excellence," one in the US and one overseas, to provide training and research opportunities for environmental professionals from developing nations.

"Our efforts will direct AID's resources towards projects and programmes in key developing countries (such as Brazil) that are currently — or projected to be — major contributors to global climate change," Roskens emphasised.

He noted that about 60 per cent of the agency's current environmental resources were directed towards nations that were not "key countries" under any definition.

Targeted

"Under our environmental initiative, we intend to turn that figure around, so that by 1995, 60 per cent of our resources will be targeted in key countries."

Roskens said that each of the agency's regional offices had identified three or four of the most critical environmental concerns affecting their operations.

These varied from region to region, he added, but included tropical forestry and bio-diversity, energy production and use, urban and industrial pollution, pest and pesticide management, watershed and water management and coastal zone management.

As part of its effort to protect tropical forests and endangered animals, Roskens said, the agency was increasingly encouraging developing countries to take part in debt-for-nature swaps.

Discount

He explained that such swaps, part of a developing country's official or commercial debt burden was sold at a discount in secondary financial markets and then exchanged for local currencies which were then used by the buyer to finance forest conservation, park construction or other domestic environmental programmes.

The official pointed specifically to a debt-for-nature swap that the agency had helped promote in Madagascar, in collaboration with the World Wildlife Fund. Similar swaps were being planned in the Philippines, Ecuador and Paraguay.

4 arrested in Miami

Gun smuggling

MIAMI, July 4. (AP). US officials say two Israelis who claimed they trained Colombians to use firearms have been charged with attempting to smuggle 122 high-quality semi-automatic pistols to South America.

Brothers Geri and Shlomi Ben-Tov, both of Miami, had been secretly shipping weapons overseas for some time, said Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms supervisor Ron Mitchell.

Also arrested in the case were two Venezuelans, Rodrigo Fernandez and Ilio Ulivi of Caracas, who allegedly received the pistols from the Israelis on Monday. All four face charges of violating gun and export control laws.

"This was an ongoing enterprise. This was not the first shipment," Mitchell said yesterday. "From the records I observed it was the whole gamut of rifles and handguns."

Investigators said they were not sure how many firearms were smuggled or how long the ring existed because many of the records are coded in computers at the Israeli office.

At one point, Mitchell said, the Israelis told undercover investigators they were training Colombians in firearms use, but the agent could not say if they were any connection to the cocaine cartels. He said they did not appear to have any connection to another Israeli, Lt Col Yair Klein, who fled Colombia after being videotaped training alleged Medellín cartel gunman.

Meanwhile, an assault rifle seized in the arrest last year of four suspected assassins of Colombian presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galán has been traced by US authorities to an official Israeli arms shipment, the New York Newsday newspaper reported.

Although supposedly destined for the defence forces of the Caribbean island of Antigua, a cache of guns from the shipment was discovered earlier this year on a ranch owned by the late Colombian drug boss Jose Rodriguez Gacha, Newsday said Wednesday.

The Israeli government has maintained that it followed its normal procedure in the \$353,700 sale of 500 Gali rifles and Uzi machine pistols and 200,000 rounds of ammunition to the 90-man Antigua Defence Force and that it does not know how the weapons were obtained by Gacha.



Train crash; 6 dead

Six people died and eight were injured late Tuesday in a collision of a passenger train and a freight train, Spanish national radio reported.

The crash took place shortly after 11.30 pm (2130 GMT) in Torrejon de Ardoz, about 18 kilometres (11 miles) east of Madrid. The passenger train was heading from Madrid to the northern city of Zaragoza, and the freight train was on its way into the capital, the radio said.

A radio reporter on the scene said the six dead included an engineer, a stewardess and four Spaniards who were on the passenger train.

The report added that most of the 50 passengers were unhurt. The eight injured were taken to a local hospital.

The cause of the accident was not immediately known, the radio said. Above: rescue workers lower a victim from a train in Alcalá de Henares June 4. (Reuters wirephoto)

Jury divided over NY murder case

Re-trial set for September

NEW YORK, July 4. (AP). A

man charged in a racial slaying in the Bensonhurst section of the city was found innocent yesterday of one count of murder, but the sharply divided jury could not reach a verdict on a second murder charge.

The jury, in its ninth day of deliberations, convicted John Vento of two counts of unlawful imprisonment and four counts of menacing for his role in the attack that left 16-year-old Yussif Hawkins dead on a sidewalk in Brooklyn's Bensonhurst neighbourhood.

Vento, who backed out of a deal to testify against his co-defendants in the case, faces 11-3 to 4 years on the unlawful imprisonment counts and 90 days on each menacing count. Sentencing was set for Aug 14.

The 21-year-old sat silently as the verdicts were read.

Vento was acquitted of the first murder count; a weapons possession charge; one count of unlawful imprisonment; and five counts of discrimination. The jury was also hung on a count of first-degree murder.

Prosecutors said Vento would be retried in September on the charges for which there was a hung jury.

The Vento case was the second trial stemming from the attack by a white gang on Hawkins, who was shot and killed in the predominantly white neighbourhood last year. Hawkins, who is black, was in the area to look at a used car.

Helping anti-drug efforts

US Army role expanded

LOS ANGELES, July 4. (Reuters). Small groups of US soldiers are leading anti-drug training patrols in the jungles of Peru, Colombia and Bolivia, the Los Angeles Times has reported.

Quoting unnamed US officials, the newspaper said the latest anti-drug effort was a quite escalation of US military operations in South America but it did not appear to violate a US ban on direct military involvement in anti-narcotics operations.

In addition to the training patrols, the paper said, overflights by US intelligence planes have been increased in an effort to search out drug laboratories and monitor traffickers' communications.

The expanded intelligence-gathering was part of a separate effort to direct assaults by local forces against cocaine traffickers and the rebels who support them.

Chamorro blamed the country's financial

Muslim leader barred by judge

WASHINGTON, July 4. (AP).

The judge in Mayor Marion Barry's drug trial said he is entitled to bar Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan and an excommunicated Roman Catholic priest from the courtroom.

"Districts courts possess considerable discretion to exclude specific spectators in order to ensure that jurors and witnesses are free of distraction, disruption, and intimidation," US district judge Thomas Penfield Jackson wrote in court papers supporting his decision.

The Justice Department, in a separate filing yesterday supported Jackson's content that neither Barry, Farrakhan nor George Angelos Stallings could legally seek relief from the US district court of appeals.

The bar against Farrakhan and Stallings, whose break with the Roman Catholic church has brought him widespread publicity, has become a sidelight of Barry's three-week-old trial.

Barry supporters have called it evidence that the mayor is being persecuted by the government because he is black.

Farrakhan was barred from entering the courtroom as Barry's guest last Wednesday. The judge said the Muslim leader's presence "would be potentially disruptive and very likely intimidating." He cited the same reasoning in denying Stallings entry on Thursday.

In his court papers, Jackson wrote that Barry could take up the matter with the appeals court if he is convicted in his drug and perjury trial and then appeals the conviction.

Jackson announced his decision to exclude Farrakhan and Stallings while the jury was outside the courtroom.

Barry has appeared to prolonged applause at public events recently with both Farrakhan and Stallings, who contend they have been excluded from the courtroom because they are black.

In his initial filing, Spitzer argued that Jackson must show proof that the men would disrupt the trial. He also claimed that Jackson's order violated the mayor's constitutional right to a public trial.

Meanwhile, the star witness in Barry's cocaine and perjury trial testified yesterday that the US government is paying and protecting her because of a \$100,000 bounty on her life.

American confidence waning in drug war

NEW YORK, July 4. (AP). Nearly half of all Americans say drug abuse is plaguing their neighbourhoods, and increasing numbers are sceptical about President George Bush's multi-billion-dollar war on cocaine, a poll has found.

In September, just after Bush declared war on drugs, 74 per cent of Americans believed the administration was making a serious effort to combat illegal drug use. But that confidence has fallen to 59 per cent.

At the same time, nearly half the respondents to the media general-Associated Press poll said drugs are a serious problem where they live. That was up from 40 per cent when Bush announced the campaign.

The new cordoba will be worth \$1.

Currently 165,000 cordobas are needed to buy \$1.

The administration will back the new money with \$320 million, Mayorga said on the government radio station.

Lucio Jimenez, leader of the Sandinista Workers' Centre, another union federation, called the strike "a full success" and said a total of 42,000 employees had stayed away from their jobs in government ministries.

Monrovia under siege

Fate of Doe unclear; situation confused

ABIDJAN, July 4. (Agencies). The fate of Liberian President Samuel Doe was unclear today, a day after he was reported ready to quit as the capital Monrovia came under rebel siege.

Monrovia is cut off from the world, with telephone and telex links down and no flights, scheduled or charter, to the city.

Rebels led by former Doe associate Charles Taylor have surrounded the capital, blocking all land routes in and out.

Diplomats contacted in neighbouring Ivory Coast were either in the dark about latest events or remained tight-lipped.

Heavy fighting continued some three km (two miles) north of Monrovia port yesterday, they added.

Rebel sources in Ivory Coast said today they had received no fresh news from Liberia.

The sources, in radio contact with the rebels, said yesterday the guerrillas were only 200 metres (yards) from Doe's fortress-like mansion where he is believed to be barricaded with a crack battalion and Israeli-trained bodyguards.

But a US official in Washington said the American embassy in Monrovia reported no fighting in the city centre.

The six-month-old civil war has turned into a vicious tribal feud which has killed thousands of civilians on both sides.

Government troops have turned on members of the Gio and Mano tribes backing Taylor, killing, raping and pillaging their homes. Rebels have retaliated by killing Krahn and Mandingos, a trading group the rebels accuse of siding with Doe.

Soldiers, many of them drunk or drugged, have terrorised the capital, shooting from commandeered cars and extorting cash from passers-by.

Monrovia has been without water and electricity since last week. Markets and shops are shuttered and harried residents make brief forays to search for food and water before retreating to the safety of their homes.

The United States, Liberia's main ally, has offered to help Doe leave the West African country, founded by freed American slaves in 1847.

Taylor has vowed to capture and prosecute Doe, who seized power 10 years ago in a bloody coup. But many of the rebels, a rag-tag, ill-disciplined army, say they will kill him.

Most of Doe's cabinet and senior officials including the defence minister, have fled the country.

Washington has put a special task force on 24-hour alert to monitor the situation and four US navy ships are standing off the coast to evacuate foreigners if necessary.

Sporadic firing was heard this morning in several areas on the city's edge, said the Christian missionary radio station Elwa, monitored in neighbouring Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

The radio said some gunfire was heard near its facilities several kilometres (miles) outside the city, but no information was available from government officials.

A rebel source in Ivory Coast said 800 insurgents were involved in attacks on Monrovia and several thousand more were advancing, bringing heavy artillery with them.

Doe's administration has asked the United States to intervene against the rebels on several occasions, but Washington has declined.

US officials in Washington said yesterday they believe Doe's government could collapse within days. The officials, who asked not to be identified, said there had been a number of desertions from the elite unit of about 500 fighters that protects Doe.

A rebel leader, Tom Woewiyu, said the insurgents would not oppose a US evacuation of Doe.

"If they can help him, God bless him. If they can't, we'll get him," Woewiyu said. "If they can send a hook from the heavens to pull him up and take him out, fine, we wouldn't mind that. We can try him later."

US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher repeated an offer to help Doe leave the country if he asked, but said he had not yet requested such help. Boucher also declined to say whether Doe could come to the United States.

In Kennebunkport, Maine, where President Bush is spending the holiday, National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft said the United States had received no request for help from Doe.

"The situation in Monrovia is very confused. We can't say anything more," one diplomat said.

The last on-the-spot news report, sent jointly by foreign journalists via radio telex yesterday, quoted political sources as saying Doe had agreed to resign on condition his safety and that of his minority Krahn tribe be assured.

The journalists, including Reuter correspondent Robert Mahoney, said a delegation of close aides and politicians headed by Vice-President Harry Moniba had told Doe to step down.



Children in the Liberian capital carry water containers on their heads on Sunday. The capital has been without water since the rebel attack last week. The attack occurred near the city's only reservoir. (Reuters wirephoto)

Refugees swamp churches

Rebel tribes terrified

MONROVIA, July 4. (Reuters). As night falls in Monrovia

random shots ring out and 5,000 refugees huddle together in churches hoping to be alive in the morning.

A two-metre (six foot) high compound wall and a Red Cross flag are the only protection many have should Liberian President Samuel Doe's increasingly embattled soldiers come seeking revenge.

The civilians are from the Gio and Mano tribes whose members make up the bulk of rebel forces slowly encircling the capital to force Doe out.

The army, dominated by Doe's minority Krahn tribe, grows more jittery and undisciplined by the day. Foreign ambassadors and international relief agencies are worried that the soldiers seeing the refugees as potential rebel recruits could storm the undefended churches and kill them. Troops did just that in May, breaking into a United Nations compound and taking away about 50 Gio and Mano children who had fled there.

Mary Gonte's husband was one of them. His body was dumped on a beach a few days later and she fled with her three children to St Peter's Lutheran Church along with more than 2,000 other Gios.

"We've been here since then and I am afraid to go outside," she said.

"Some of us with it's tiny mission school and church soon emptied."

The Red Cross converted a nearby school into a shelter to relieve some of the pressure on the church but Gios and Mandos continue to arrive.

Roman Catholic and Protestant churches with walled or fenced compounds opened their doors to the Gios but most are now full. Red Cross workers estimate more than 5,000 are now crammed into five churches and other sites.

More than 500 Gios have taken over the empty residence of the Japanese ambassador and many foreigners have taken in displaced people.

Some of the churches have a radio link with the United States embassy. US Marine Guards patrol in a jeep, going to the compounds when drunken soldiers turn up at the gates demanding money or harassing the refugees.

Military police are posted outside some compounds at night and no soldiers have yet tried to enter. But both the refugees and those who look after them feel vulnerable.

"We have no protection other than the fence," said father Brian Justice at Dom Bosco College.

"But people keep coming. We are full now and cannot take them."

Profitable targets

Policemen live in fear

MEDELLIN, Colombia, July 4. (AP). A policeman

in Medellín goes to work each day with an assault rifle, a bulletproof vest and a prayer. The drug lords will pay \$4,300 to anyone who kills him.

In the first half of 1990, 154 police have been slain in the city that is the base of the Medellín drug cartel.

Police said they live on nerve and in fear of being the next victim.

Some routinely arrive home with pistol drawn in

case an assassin lurks in the shadows. Dozens of the victims were murdered while off duty.

Police in Medellín are part of an national force of 80,000 men, which is part of the military and under Defence Ministry jurisdiction.

The government, which declared war on drug traffickers last year, has sent 1,800 reinforcements in recent weeks to augment the normal force of 2,600.

Violence amid beauty

Medellin cries

MEDELLIN, Colombia, July 4. (AP). This is a city where assassins stalk policemen to earn a bounty and car bombs shatter the lives of passers-by. It is also a notably clean city, where men in heated traffic disputes address each other as "Sir."

Violence by a small but powerful group of criminals has overshadowed the beauty of Medellín and its 3 million residents. Visitors who expect the city to be a drug-crazed slaughterhouse are surprised by the neat appearance and polite behaviour of Colombia's second-largest city.

Although the city is home to the world's most powerful cocaine cartel, drugs are scarcely used.

As in any other Colombian city, children generally are respectful of their parents and show reverence to the elderly. Both public and private schools require students to wear uniforms, clean and neatly pressed. Teachers are shown great respect.

Medellin embraces traditions and mores that might seem archaic elsewhere.

Medellin girls under the age of 15 are chaperoned when they are out with boys. Speech is formal and respect is the rule in most personal relationships.

Graffiti is seldom obscene. Writing on walls is more likely to address labour disputes, guerrillas or the war on drugs.

People dress neatly in Medellín.

Gardeners, earning less than \$50 a month, often arrive at their jobs in suits — though some are badly frayed. Then they change into work clothes. Colombians smile knowingly but are not rude when they see American or European tourists dressed shabbily.

Set in a valley in the Andes mountains and rolling green hills, Medellín is an eclectic mix. The city is refreshingly clean compared with major metropolises of the West. Men with push-brooms sweep the streets day and night.

Spanish churches and colonial houses with red tiled roofs dot the valley.

because she gets no pension at all. Her husband was killed March 23, 1988, before the pension law was passed.

She said she makes the equivalent of about \$102 a month working in a drugstore. She feeds her son and daughter, aged 4 and 3, one meal a day of rice and beans.

And she's fortunate to have even that job.

Unemployment is over 30 per cent in Medellín, according to sociologists at the local university. The government says the rate is 10 per cent, but doesn't count thousands of people who mow lawns, work as sidewalk peddlers or have other "part-time jobs."

"I've been looking for a job ever since my husband was killed," said Socorro Rua. Her husband was killed May 19 by a man who stuck a gun in his ribs on a crowded bus.

Her 15-year-old daughter, Liliana, turned her head away and tears coursed down her cheeks. Rua also has a 6-year-old son, Carlos.

Nicaragua hikes gas price, devalues currency as workers strike

MANAGUA, July 4. (AP). The government has raised gasoline prices and devalued currency in the midst of a public employees' strike for a voice in economic policies.

Gas prices went up from \$1.59 a gallon to \$1.80 yesterday, a government news release broadcast on official Radio Nicaragua said.

The price was adjusted automatically as the national currency, the cordoba, slipped 7.35 per cent against the dollar in the

20th devaluation since President Violeta Chamorro's United National opposition coalition administration took office on April 25.

Chamorro's predecessor, Daniel Ortega, yesterday read a prepared Sandinista Party statement supporting a government workers strike that began Monday with calls for more participation in economic policy-making and protests against recent findings.

Chamorro blamed the country's finan-

cial straits and the strike on Sandinistas, who she said left the country "in bankruptcy."

The government called on workers to end the strike yesterday and said it plans to begin paying its workers in a new form of currency, the cordoba oro, at the end of the month.

Central Bank President Francisco Mayorga said government workers will receive 40 per cent of their pay in the new money and 60 per cent in the old.

الشرق الأوسط

1,300 Ethiopia troops killed

NAIROBI, July 4, (Reuters): Rebels fighting for an independent Eritrea said they killed 1,300 Ethiopian government troops last Saturday when they repulsed an army attack on the frontline east of the Eritrean provincial capital Asmara.

The clandestine radio of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), said last night the clash occurred when Ethiopian troops attacked rebel positions on the Adi Raso Front, about 30 km (20 miles) east of Asmara.

The broadcast, monitored in Nairobi, said in addition to those killed, they army suffered 2,000 wounded in the engagement.

"The enemy is in a very desperate situation," it said.

Adi Raso lies in barren mountains on the frontier that isolates more than 100,000 government troops in Asmara from the Red Sea port of Massawa, which fell to the EPLF in February.

The loss of this crucial outlet to the sea left Asmara completely surrounded by the EPLF and dependent on aircraft for links with the outside world.

On Monday, the EPLF repeated a warning to international aid groups not to participate in an airlift of supplies to Asmara, saying this would be viewed as a military operation.

Another rebel movement in northern Ethiopia says it killed about 22,000 government troops last month in heavy fighting just north of the capital Addis Ababa.

This second rebel movement, which is led by the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), is fighting to overthrow President Mengistu Haile Mariam and set up a new government in Ethiopia as a whole.

But it has rejected a government offer of peace talks on condition that it publicly rejects EPLF demands for an independent state in Eritrea.

Last week, the Ethiopian government announced an all-out mobilisation to meet a growing threat from rebel forces, including the return to active service of all retired military and police personnel.

Gabon's Opposition Gabonese Progress Party leader Joseph Rindjambé, whose death in still mysterious circumstances in May provoked widespread rioting, is expected to be buried at last in his home village on Saturday, political sources said yesterday.

Party leaders and relatives plan to display his body at his party headquarters in the Likouala district of Libreville, the Gabonese capital, on Thursday so that followers of Rindjambé may pay him their last respects.

On Friday morning his coffin is expected to be taken to the village in the province of L'Ogooue Maritime where he was born. The burial ceremony is expected to take place Saturday.

The results of toxicological tests undertaken to determine the cause of Rindjambé's death in a Libreville hotel never have been made public.

Gabonese President Omar Boongo in June released only partial results of an autopsy carried out on Rindjambé in the presence of French doctors, saying that the only sign of violence on his body was injection marks in the abdomen.

Opposition militants charged he had been poisoned. Rindjambé had wide business interests as well as being a leading political figure.

Authorities evidently approved the funeral plans because of a return to total calm in the West African nation following the imposition of a state of siege in L'Ogooue Maritime, the capital Libreville and the city of Port Gentil to quell violent demonstrations that erupted in those cities following the death of Rindjambé. (UPI)

Zambia The paramount chief of Zambia's biggest tribe Tuesday identified a notorious army lieutenant detained for allegedly plotting a coup as a member of the royal house.

But Chief Chitimukulu denied widespread speculation that his Bemba people, about two-fifths of the 7.5 million population, supported the aborted coup.

"He has no support," the chief, whose name means the big tree, told reporters. "And we in the (northern) province will not tolerate such nonsense." (AP)

Angola Marxist Angola will evolve into a multi-party democracy once the Southern African nation's 15-year civil war ends and its people choose a pluralist path, the ruling party said yesterday.

The central committee of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, known as MPLA, made the announcement in a statement after six days of private discussions. (AP)

Angola rebels said yesterday they had blown up an oil pipeline in the north-west on a huge fire which burned for nearly seven hours.

The rebels, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), said in a statement issued in Lisbon they struck in Soyo region, next to the Congo river estuary, last Thursday. Three oil exploration wells were affected, the statement said, but gave no details.

Kenya President Daniel Arap Moi warned those pressing for multi-party democracy in Kenya that his government will use force if necessary to halt activities it deems subversive.

"Neither the issue of state security nor the maintenance of law and order is negotiable," he said in lengthy statement issued from state house last night.

"Any blatant attempt to flout the law in respect of an illegal public meeting will be dealt with by the law in accordance with the full resources for the protection of law and order which are at the disposal of the state," he said. (AP)

Challenge to austerity

Greece strike

ATHENS, July 4, (AP): A nation-wide walkout today brought the country to a virtual standstill as civil servants joined private employees and shop owners to challenge the government's austerity and development programmes.

Transport services were disrupted, power supplies were erratic, traffic congested and air pollution levels hit a record high in the capital.

It was the fourth 24-hour country-wide strike this year.

Workers are protesting price hikes and other measures taken by conservative Premier Constantine Mitsotakis following his April 8 election.

"The Greek people realise that Greece must be modernised and today's strike has no real purpose, which is why only a very small percentage of workers are taking part in it," said Mitsotakis after a cabinet meeting.

The government is struggling to contain inflation running at 22 per cent and a projected \$2 billion current account deficit. It has estimated that each nation-wide walkout costs the ailing economy 16.2 billion drachmas (\$100 million) and the loss of 16 million work hours.

The country is also staggering under a total public debt of \$94 billion. The strike was called jointly by the General Confederation of Greek Workers, the Civil Servants Union and many smaller labour organisations. Protest rallies were held throughout Greece.



French air strike

Flights were cut by about 60 per cent at French international airports yesterday as air controllers entered the second day of a three-day strike over pay and staff increases.

Airport officials said only about a third of the 1,400 incoming and outgoing flights scheduled at Orly and Charles de Gaulle airports were expected to fly, leaving thousands of holidaymakers seeking alternative routes.

The stoppage affects the country's main northern airline at Athis-Mons, which controls traffic at Paris's two international airports as well as local airports in northern cities.

Airport officials said they were trying to maintain flights by foreign earners without causing excessive delays. Picture shows a few air controllers working at Athis-Mons, near Paris. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mandela reiterates plea for sanctions

Thatcher welcomes ANC leader

LONDON, July 4, (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher welcomed Nelson Mandela today, just three years after she denounced his African National Congress as a terrorist organisation and said she would have nothing to do with it.

The black South African leader was expected to make the same plea he made earlier today to British businessmen: support sanctions for up to two years during final negotiations to end apartheid.

Mrs Thatcher and British business oppose sanctions and want those imposed by the European Economic Community relaxed as a reward

for South African President F.W. de Klerk's reform programme.

Mandela told more than 250 senior British business executives that the South African government and the ANC want an end to sanctions and there is now "an element of urgency" on both sides to negotiate quickly so they can be lifted.

"We are aware of the damage which has been done to our economy by sanctions and we do not want our economy to be reduced to ashes by the maintenance of sanctions," he said.

"All that we are saying to the international community is that give us

a few months, if not a year or two to resolve this question amongst ourselves," Mandela said.

Mrs Thatcher greeted Mandela as he arrived in Downing Street at her 10 Downing St residence just before noon (1100 GMT).

Some 300 anti-apartheid demonstrators who back sanctions demonstrated at the end of Downing St and chanted as Mandela's limousine went through the gates blocking off the street.

Mandela said yesterday he was "very optimistic" about his discussions with the prime minister and hoped they could narrow their differences over sanctions

and the ANC's continuing commitment to a non-violent struggle. A British government source said he expected "a vigorous discussion."

The source said Mandela made a late-night call to Mrs Thatcher in mid-June saying he was very worried about the attitude of European countries to sanctions.

"He is dead right to be because of what they are not doing," said one government source. Britain sees that other European countries are simply easing sanctions.

On the telephone, Mandela urged Mrs Thatcher "not to push it" over lifting sanctions and she replied that she was very concerned about "you and the ANC and what are you doing about giving up the armed struggle," the source said.

Mrs Thatcher will ask Mandela to renounce the armed struggle and she will also warn him that a new South Africa is unlikely to get the investment it wants if it proceeds with nationalisation, the source said.

Speaking on the British Broadcasting Corp's "Newsnight" programme last night, Mandela said it is "very likely" the armed struggle will be over by the end of this year.

At a meeting this morning with leaders of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), Mandela said: "It is common cause that South Africa's difficulties of access to the world capital and loan markets has played a decisive role in persuading Pretoria that fundamental change must take place."

He stressed that economic progress is crucial to the success of any political settlement because of the disparity in living standards of blacks and whites.

"It will be critical that the economy grows rapidly and at rates that supercede population growth. This cannot happen without large inflows of foreign capital, including British capital," he said.

Mandela's doctor says the black nationalist leader has the physical and mental strength of a man of 50 because the 71-year-old keeps regular diet and exercise, and, ironically, seem to have benefited from life in jail, the Independent said yesterday.

Thatcher to cash in on 'peace dividend'

COTTESMORE, England, July 4, (AP): Glad in helmet and flying suit, Defence Secretary Tom King gave a thumbs-up sign from the cockpit of a Tornado warplane ready for takeoff. He was the very picture of gritty determination.

He needed to be. These are gloomy days for the Tornado, pride of the Royal Air Force.

The fighter plane — produced jointly by Britain, Italy and West Germany — is now itself a target of weapons-cutting proposals.

In a new global climate, even Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, traditionally the most hawkish leader in the 16-nation Nato alliance, is preparing to cash in the so-called "peace dividend" by slicing defence spending in the face of a collapsing Soviet-led Warsaw Pact.

King's morale-boosting visit to the sprawling Cottesmore Airbase in central England, Nato's main Tornado training base, followed the announcement last month that Britain has cancelled an order for 33 Tornado aircraft.

\$1b cut The move was part of a \$1-billion cut in this year's \$37-billion defence budget.

Thatcher, who plays host to a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation summit meeting tomorrow and Friday in London, is adamant that the Western alliance's new role should include most of the old.

She says it should remain a defence alliance with nuclear weapons and US troops deployed in Europe.

US President George Bush has also proposed cuts of \$3 billion, taking inflation into account, for a \$303-billion US deficit budget. But some congressmen want much larger reductions.

The official reason given for cancelling the Tornado order was the high cost, which rose as Britain's annual inflation rate soared unexpectedly to nearly 10 per cent.

But the post-cold war climate made the decision easier for the government, and officials acknowledge privately that it is just the beginning of more sweeping cuts.

The conservative government is engaged in a major review of defence spending. It is widely expected to herald big cutbacks by Britain, long among the highest defence spenders in Nato.

Armed Forces Minister Archie Hamilton sent shudders through the military hierarchy last month by telling Parliament that some of the army's 75 regiments will probably have to be abolished or merged into others.

The spending review is being carried out in secret. But according to widely reported leaks, defence Procurement Minister Alan Clark has proposed a radical programme, including eventually cutting the Royal Navy's surface fleet from 50 to 32 frigates and the 150,000-member army by about a third.

The cuts reportedly would include phased withdrawals of many of the 66,700 British Army and Air Force personnel based in West Germany.

Britain's 1991-92 defence budget, planned before the dramatic political changes in Eastern Europe, was \$39 billion. Now there is speculation it will be frozen at \$37 billion.

The British cut in spending for the Tornado followed reports of successive cancellations of orders by Jordan, Oman, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia.

Eurotunnel is halfway

France ahead, UK late

LONDON, July 4, (AP): The undersea "Chunnel" linking England and France is dug halfway and due to open on schedule in three years despite unexpectedly high costs.

Privately funded Eurotunnel is having to seek billions of pounds (dollars) in extra funding, and its hopes of getting a high-speed rail link to the British end of the tunnel have, for the time being, been dashed.

While the French are forging ahead with a high-speed link at their end, state-owned British Rail is dragging its feet, provoking charges that the British are once again showing their insular side.

"There is an attitude in France that this is a great project in the national interest. In this country, the attitude to these projects tends to be the reverse," says Alastair Morton, British deputy chairman of Eurotunnel, the Anglo-French company tunneling beneath the English Channel.

Confident "Britain becomes branch line of Europe," a Guardian newspaper headline declared mockingly after the government announced June 14 that it would not fund the rail link.

Still, Eurotunnel is still confident the Chunnel will open June 15, 1993, six months after the 12-nation European Economic Community drops its trade barriers and becomes a barrier-free marketplace of 320 million consumers.

"We will have the money to finish the project," Morton said. He told a recent news conference that the consortium was having financial problems but that the Chunnel will be completed on time.

The project also has been marred by eight accidental deaths on the site.

The British public demonstrates little enthusiasm for the Chunnel. Common fears are that it will import rabid animals, terrorists or invading armies.

Finance Richard Hannah, a transport analyst with the London investment house UBS Phillips and Drew, said he expects the extra financing to come through and the project to be finished within six months of target.

"It's one of these situations where the more money you put in, the more you have to spend or else you're walking away from billions of pounds," Hannah said.

Giant drills are boring three tunnels toward each other from Folkestone, England and Calais, France, with the first underground meeting expected in November in the service tunnel between the rail tunnels.

Tunneling is three months ahead of schedule on the French side, a week behind on the British side.

Workers had dug 53.2 miles (85.4 kms) out of the total 91.9 miles (148.2 kms) through June 17.

Passengers Chunnel trains will carry passengers, cars and freight between London and Paris in about three hours, roughly the same time as a flight including ground travel, and at least twice as fast as a car-ferry journey.

Eurotunnel estimates that 28 million passengers and 17 per cent of Britain's non-oil trade will pass through the tunnel in the first year.

The Civil Aviation Authority says the tunnel should divert 5 million out of 53 million air passengers annually.

Eurotunnel is trying to persuade members of its 208-bank syndicate to boost its available credit from £5 billion to 7 billion (\$8.6 to 12 billion). Eurotunnel's four main banks have approved the hike.

Last Wednesday, shareholders approved the sale of an extra £530 million (\$906 million) worth of stock to existing shareholders, who already have bought £1 billion (\$1.7 billion) worth.

The extra bank lending and share financing are conditional upon each other.

Shares Eurotunnel says it doesn't expect to make a profit before the end of the century and probably won't pay its shareholders a dividend until 1999, four years later than first expected.

However, investors haven't fared badly. The London share price, which started in November 1987 at 350 pence (\$5.99), has risen to 500 pence (\$8.55).

The number of French shareholders has risen to 436,000 from 210,000, while British shareholders are steady at 100,000.

Eurotunnel's two steps would raise total debt and equity funding for the project from £6 billion (\$10.3 billion) to £8.5 billion (\$14.5 billion).

It has pitched the sum high to avoid having to beg more money at a later date. Its latest cost estimate is £7.66 billion (\$13.1 billion), up from an initial forecast of £4.87 billion (\$8.3 billion).

Dispute The main reason for the increase is that the rolling stock has turned out much more expensive than anticipated.

In October, the banking syndicate's concerns about rising costs drove it to freeze funds for three months until Eurotunnel reached a truce with trans-machine link, the consortium of 10 British and French contractors doing the actual construction.

The problems led to Eurotunnel's second management shake-up since 1987.

The cost-control faxes total costs and stipulates some cost-sharing by trans-machine link in the event of overruns. But Eurotunnel and trans-machine link remain in dispute over £700 million (\$1.2 billion) in costs.

The British government's refusal to finance a rail link is another blow.

Victorious Reds executed 40,000

Mass grave in Yugoslavia

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia, July 4, (AP): A mass grave discovered last week in northern Yugoslavia may contain the remains of 40,000 people executed by victorious communists in 1945, a newspaper reported yesterday.

Most appear to have been Ustaša soldiers of the defeated Nazi puppet state of Croatia, Vjesnik said.

The victims apparently were executed after surrendering to communist partisans or being deported to Yugoslavia by the Western allies from Austria, where many had sought refuge at the end of World War II.

The Ustašas were an elite, SS-type military unit accused of murdering hundreds of thousands of Jews, Serbs and Gypsies after the so-called independent state of Croatia was created under German auspices in 1941.

Piles of bones, estimated to be up to 10 metres deep in places, were found in a 40-metre (yard) deep pit near the village of Sosice.

The Vjesnik story was illustrated with large photographs of a cave at the bottom of the pit filled with skulls and human bones.

Townsmen and former partisans quoted by the daily said that truckloads of wounded Croatian soldiers, members of the Ustaša youth movement, army nurses and other people were brought to the site.

Earlier reports had estimated the dead in the thousands but the Vjesnik account was the first to put a possible figure on remains in the grave. While not clarifying how it arrived at 40,000 victims, Vjesnik quoted townspeople as saying that for months trucks loaded with captives drove toward the pit and returned empty.



African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela (right) is greeted by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at 10 Downing Street yesterday prior to their talks. (Reuters wirephoto)

Fifth target bombed

White Wolves claim responsibility

JOHANNESBURG, July 4, (AP): A bomb damaged the offices of an anti-apartheid newspaper before dawn today. The fifth attack in as many nights against white liberals in Johannesburg.

A man claiming to belong to a right-wing extremist group, the White Wolves, said his organisation was responsible for the recent blasts in a phone call yesterday to the Citizen, a pro-government newspaper.

The explosion at the deserted offices of the Afrikaans-language newspaper Vrye Weekblad caused only minor damage.

No one has been hurt in any of the explosions.

The editor of Vrye Weekblad, Max Du Preez, said an unidentified caller phoned him at home early yesterday and said the attack was "only a beginning."

The bombings on the four preceding nights have been at the

office of an anti-apartheid city councillor, the homes of two other city councillors and at a synagogue. The synagogue was covered with graffiti comparing Jews to the African National Congress, the leading black opposition group.

The caller to the Citizen newspaper said all the places attacked were considered part of "the same target."

The White Wolves have also claimed responsibility for several attacks in the past two years, police say they have not been able to determine if such an organisation actually exists, or if white extremists acting independently have simply adopted the name.

President F.W. de Klerk's reforms and stated intention of ending apartheid have outraged right-wing whites, who have vowed to resist any lessening of white privilege.

Both De Klerk and ANC

leader Nelson Mandela have warned that heavily armed right-wing whites could undermine black-white efforts to negotiate a new constitution and end apartheid.

The caller to the Citizen demanded the release of Barend Strydom, who is on death row for killing seven blacks and an Indian in a shooting spree in downtown Pretoria in 1988. The caller also vowed retaliation for the death of a white mine official, killed by a mob of black mine-workers yesterday.

After months of threatening violence, right-wing whites have begun to act.

The offices belonging to De Klerk's ruling National Party were bombed last month. Piet Rudolph, a right-winger who has been in hiding since he allegedly stole weapons from an air force base in April, has claimed responsibility.

Quebec panel for new constitution may lead toward autonomy or independence

MONTREAL, July 4, (Kuna): The government of the French-speaking province of Quebec is organising a commission that will create a blueprint for a new Quebec constitution and lead the way to an autonomous or fully independent Quebec.

Premier Robert Bourassa, who was seen as a strong federalist a decade ago is now at the forefront of efforts to move Quebec away from Canada.

Bourassa has appointed Lucien Bouchard, a former member of the Canadian

federal Parliament who quit his party to sit as an independent and speak exclusively for Quebec among parliamentarians in the Canadian capital.

After meeting for an hour yesterday with Bourassa, Bouchard said, "I hope that we will be able to achieve a sovereignist project. We have to put the cards on the table, and decide what is good for Quebec. It might be possible to keep a few things in common with English Canada."

Bouchard and Bourassa agreed that they would only call for a referendum on the future of Quebec if they are absolutely sure that voters will approve sovereignty or independence for Quebec. In 1980, Quebecers went to the poll and defeated that option but now polls say that up to 56 per cent of Quebecers would vote yes for independence.

If we have a referendum, we have to be sure we'll win. We know the consequences of a referendum.

Meanwhile, the English speaking minority in Quebec is desperately trying to revive interest in federalism. Robert Libman, leader of the newly created Equality Party in Quebec has created his own task force to promote a united Canada.

Libman has promised to "advance the cause of Canadian federalism by promoting its economic, social and political benefits to the population of Quebec through rallies, symposia, the media and other means available."

INTERNATIONAL

Reforms meeting ends in Taiwan

TAIPEI, July 4. (AP): The ruling Nationalist Party and its opposition ended a historic meeting today by agreeing that the next president should be chosen by all Taiwanese instead of by aging nationalists from mainland China.

The week-long national affairs conference ended with a joint statement in support of presidential elections and other democratic change to replace a political system that has guaranteed nationalist rule for the past four decades.

"The democratic trend is irresistible," said Chang Chung-hung, secretary general of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party. "We have just had a peaceful revolution to gain democracy."

Less dramatic progress was made in discussions on relations with the rival government on China. The conference urged more trade and culture exchanges but cautioned against official talks on reunification before the communist government in Beijing agrees to end its policy of isolating Taipei diplomatically.

President Lee Teng-hui said he would support the recommendations reached by the 140 politicians and academics at the conference.

"This is the time to act," Lee told the delegates in a closing speech.

Lee had called the meeting after student demonstrations in March against his election to a six-year term by an electoral college dominated by aging Nationalist Party loyalists from mainland China.

Most members of the electoral college last ran in elections on the Chinese mainland shortly before they fled to Taiwan in 1949 with the rest of the nationalist government, which lost a civil war to communist forces.

They were frozen in office to support the nationalist claim to still be the legitimate government of all China.

The opposition has long argued that popular presidential elections are necessary to give full political power to the native Taiwanese, who account for 85 percent of the island's 20 million people.

Many nationalist delegates to the convention proposed direct presidential elections when Lee's term ends in 1996, but some supported an even earlier vote.

At a concluding session televised live, convention delegates also supported direct elections of the mayors of Taiwan's two largest cities, Taipei and Kaohsiung. Those mayors now are appointed by the nationalist government.

Delegates also supported an earlier nationalist proposal to retire by 1991 all 800 elderly members from mainland China who sit in the lawmaking legislative Yuan and on the electoral college.

Officials said a task force of representatives from the major parties will be set up to settle remaining differences on the democratic reforms.

One unresolved issue is whether the electoral college should be abolished, as proposed by the opposition, or should be transformed into a symbolic institution that would reflect the popular vote but still reserve a few seats for deputies purportedly representing mainland China.



Former Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos waves to supporters as court officers take her out of federal court in New York on Monday after she was acquitted of fraud and racketeering charges. (Reuters wirephoto)

Imelda trial Fails to produce 'right evidence'

NEW YORK, July 4. (AP): A juror in the Imelda Marcos trial said today the prosecution lost the case by failing to produce the "right evidence," including two key witnesses whose names figured constantly in the testimony.

He said that nobody on the panel liked or trusted Imelda's lead attorney, Gerry Spence.

"He lied to us. He lied to us an awful lot," said Alan Belofsky, 41, a letter carrier who lives in the New York suburb of Bronxville.

"Spence should not think that he won the case. It was that the prosecution didn't give us enough evidence, the right evidence," Belofsky said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press.

The jury yesterday acquitted the former Philippine first lady and Saudi financier Adnan Khashoggi of racketeering, fraud and obstruction of justice after a three-month trial.

Belofsky also said jurors were aware of US district judge John F. Keenan's personal doubts about the case being tried in New York instead of in the Philippines.

On June 20, while discussing a defence motion to dismiss the charges, Keenan wondered "what this case is doing in an American court ... what am I doing ... trying a case involving the theft of money from Philippine banks?"

Keenan said he "wanted to find out what the fraud was here in America, because Mrs. (Corazon) Aquino can enforce her own laws. I don't want to enforce her laws here."

Although the jury was not in the courtroom at the time, Keenan's remarks were reported in news accounts where jurors, though admonished by Keenan not to read about the trial, could see them.

Jurors are uniformly ordered

not to read or watch news accounts of the trials they are hearing so that they consider only the evidence presented in the courtroom.

"Everybody knew about that," Belofsky said of Keenan's remarks. "It was even quoted by one or two people." Asked if Keenan's comments influenced jurors' thinking about the case, he said, "I'd assume so."

Although not an issue, the question of whether the United States should have brought charges relating to money originally stolen in the Philippines was implicit throughout the trial.

Prosecutors had trouble clarifying the key point of the complicated case, that the transfer and use of such money in the United States violated federal racketeering and fraud statutes.

Other jurors earlier expressed scepticism about the charges. One, Thomas O'Rourke, called the government's case "totally silly."

Belofsky said the panel found assistant US attorney Charles Labella's delivery "bland" and were puzzled by his habit of skipping from one topic to another.

"We didn't understand all that jumping around. Just as we'd start to think about one subject, they'd jump to another one," he said.

He said a "consensus" of jurors thought Imelda knew about the massive thefts attributed to her husband, president Ferdinand Marcos, "but her accomplices kept her name out of everything."

"The amazing thing about this case is that she surrounded herself with thieves," he said. "So many people in her inner circle who absconded with money or got immunity (from prosecution), all these people helping themselves to money, and she didn't see it."

Rebels in Negros hamper search

BACOLOD, Philippines, July 4. (Reuters): A simmering insurgency in the rugged hills of Negros island is stalling efforts to find two aid workers, an American and a Japanese, kidnapped by communist guerrillas, Philippine officials said today.

Thousands of residents are silent on the kidnappings. They fear reprisals by either the leftist rebels, government troops or the paramilitary bands controlled by landowning families on the island.

Inhabitants of the central Philippines towns where Timothy Swanson, a US Peace Corps volunteer, and Fumin Mizuno, a Japanese agriculture adviser, were abducted by communist rebels have provided scant information in officials trying to secure freedom for the men, the officials said.

"People don't want to get involved because they are afraid of being caught in the middle," said a social worker who asked not to be named.

Swanson's Filipina wife, Marie, burst into tears after making an emotional appeal to her neighbours to help in winning the release of her husband, held by rebels for 21 days in the Negros Mountains.

The United States has withdrawn 260 other Peace Corps workers from the Philippines, fearing communist attacks.

"She tried her best to keep it a secret," said Larry Cayacas, a government official who talked with Swanson's wife after he was abducted. She hoped the rebels would keep their word and release Swanson if she kept silent, he said.

Antonio Fortich, the former Roman Catholic bishop of Bacolod who is seen as exercising some influence over the rebels, said it would be futile to use military action to try to rescue the pair.

"They will just escape with their captives. It would be better if diplomatic persuasion, rather than force, be used," he told Reuters.

The bishop is a member of a panel that has established contact with rebels who have been holding Mizuno since May, and which is now negotiating for his release.

The rebels have made no published demands. Their aim may be solely to embarrass the government of President Corason Aquino and make it appear impotent, Negros neocentral Governor Daniel Lacson said.

Fighting troops in comb muddy mountain trails for the two aid workers could not succeed, he said. The centre of Negros is heavily forested and crossed by poorly kept dirt roads that melt into mud paths in the rainy season, which lasts until November.

It is ideal terrain for the 1,000 guerrillas on the island, where the communist movement is fuelled by endemic poverty.

The rebels would move their captives between inaccessible mountain bases if troops were ordered into an area, Lacson said.

"They would just move (Swanson and Mizuno) far away and would make solving this problem more difficult," he said.

The government plans to try a different method in negotiating the release of the two men, Lacson said.

"The bottom line is we want them back alive," he said. "When Swanson becomes irrelevant they would release him."

Imelda still faces array of lawsuits

Multi-million dollar trial in New York court

MANILA, July 4. (Reuters): Victorious in New York, Imelda Marcos still faces a maze of lawsuits if she ever tries to return to her Philippine homeland.

Thirty-three civil cases for corruption are pending against her before a Manila anti-graft court and prosecutors say criminal charges will follow if she goes back.

Portrayed by President Corason Aquino's government as a thief, the once powerful former first lady on Monday scored a stunning political and legal victory when a New York court acquitted her on racketeering

charges.

Despite the acquittal, Aquino refused to lift a ban on Imelda's return, saying she was a security threat.

Imelda and her husband, the late president Ferdinand Marcos, fled into exile in the United States in 1986 after they were overthrown in a "people power" revolt.

The civil suits accuse the Marcoses, their children and about 300 associates of robbing the nation of billions of dollars through fake companies and seek \$100 billion in damages.

An anti-graft court put the Marcoses on trial in absentia last September but proceedings were suspended when the former president died in Honolulu later that month.

Philippine laws allow a court to try a defendant in a civil suit even in his absence but requires his presence in a criminal case.

David Castro, a commissioner of a government panel in charge of recovering the alleged ill-gotten wealth, said today the Marcoses had used dummy companies that now had a gross value of 220 billion pesos (\$9.5 billion).

Deducting the companies' debts, the government stood to gain assets worth 70 billion pesos (\$2 billion), Castro said.

The death of the former president created legal problems, such as who will represent his interests in court, which have remained unresolved and delayed the trial for months.

Legal sources said final resolution of the civil cases would most likely outlast Aquino's presidential term, which ends in 1992, and even take years after that, counting appeals.

Philippine prosecutors had been banking on a conviction of Imelda in the New York trial to speed up the local cases.

Instead, Imelda walked out of the courtroom triumphant.

"It was a psychological setback but this is not difficult to overcome," Castro said. He said the acquittal only strengthened government resolve to recover the plundered wealth.

He said the New York trial brought out evidence against Imelda not previously available to Philippine prosecutors and Manila would use it in its case against her.

"(She) may not be criminally liable for the acts committed in the United States but criminally liable for the acts committed in our country," Castro said.

Imelda and Adnan Khashoggi counted the cost yesterday of a multi-million dollar trial that many legal experts said should never have happened.

One day after their acquittal on the racketeering charges, the main thought on both their minds was to leave memories of the courtroom battle behind them — Khashoggi with a trip to Makah and Imelda with a return to her home in Hawaii.

"It's been a traumatic experience for her," said Benjamin Cassidy, one of her lawyers. "She'll probably head for Hawaii in the next week or so."

Legal experts said the US government miscalculated badly in trying to prosecute Imelda in the United States for allegedly helping her husband steal more than \$200 million from the country's treasury to buy property, art and antiques. Khashoggi was accused of helping her.

"The jury had to wonder why this case was being tried here," said Geoffrey Hazard of Yale Law School. He said jurors were probably asking "why are you prosecuting this case when you have all these drug crimes here. If this is such a heavy offence why isn't it being tried in its own country?"

Imelda and Khashoggi, a Saudi arms dealer who was once one of the world's richest men, still face a number of legal cases mainly involving ownership of buildings and bank accounts the Philippine government says rightfully belongs to Manila.

Khashoggi had been charged with obstruction of justice and mail fraud for allegedly helping the Marcoses conceal their ownership of properties.

But the pending civil charges against the pair in New York, Los Angeles and Switzerland could not send them to prison and are likely to take years to decide.

The abrupt withdrawal of US Peace Corps volunteers last week from the country because of possible communist rebel attack has added to an impression of growing lawlessness and the future of



Philippine President Aquino confers with Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos on their way to a cabinet meeting at the presidential palace in Manila yesterday. Aquino chaired a meeting to discuss plans after the acquittal of Imelda Marcos on racketeering charges in New York. (Reuters wirephoto)

Verdict sends shock waves

'War of widows'

MANILA, July 4. (Reuters): Imelda Marcos' triumphant acquittal by a New York court on racketeering charges has sent shock waves through Philippine politics and rocked President Corason Aquino's government, battered by six coup attempts and criticism of its record in office.

Already, politicians and commentators are talking about a political "war of the widows" between the former first lady and Aquino, the woman who helped oust Imelda's late husband, former dictator Ferdinand Marcos, in a 1986 popular revolt.

Aquino's husband, Benigno, was the country's chief opposition leader until he was assassinated in August, 1983, upon his return from voluntary US exile. Corason Aquino blamed the Marcoses for the murder.

Although Marcos is at present barred from leaving the United States, congressional leaders here are urging Aquino to allow her to return to the Philippines to face criminal charges in a Manila court.

Aquino, accusing her of backing a coup attempt in Manila last December, has banned Marcos from returning on security grounds, saying she might try again to overthrow the president and undermine the country's new democracy.

But whether she is allowed back or not, politicians and analysts see the New York verdict as strengthening the political opposition to Aquino at a time when she faces mounting criticism of the government's performance.

The abrupt withdrawal of US Peace Corps volunteers last week from the country because of possible communist rebel attack has added to an impression of growing lawlessness and the future of

US military bases in the country remains unresolved. The lease on the facilities expires next year.

Senator Ernesto Maceda, chairman of the Senate Defence Committee, said the acquittal of Imelda Marcos, known as the "iron butterfly" of Philippine politics, could clear the way for her to either contest presidential elections in 1992, or have a major say in who would be the opposition candidate.

"Imelda's credibility has been revived politically," he said.

Although Aquino has repeatedly said she will not seek a second term in 1992, Maceda said the prospect of Imelda, a former minister and governor of Manila, becoming involved once more in Philippine politics could force the president to change her mind.

When the Marcoses were in power Filipinos spoke of a "conjugal dictatorship" of Imelda and her husband, who died in exile in Hawaii last year.

But during the trial in New York, Marcos appeared as a devoted religious widow who wore black every day. She knelt in prayer at St Patrick's Cathedral after the jury acquitted her on Monday of charges of looting the Philippine treasury of \$220 million to buy real estate, jewellery and art.

Francisco Tatad, a former spokesman for Ferdinand Marcos, said the widow, described at the trial as a "world-class shopper" was "a woman transformed by suffering, in quality and substance. God in His infinite mercy has blessed her."

Marcos says her "only obsession" is to bury her husband, now interred in a temporary mausoleum in Honolulu, in his home province of Ilocos Norte in the Philippines. "I will not get into any fight," she declared.

Roulette Cop freed by robbers

MANILA, July 4. (AP): Robbers freed a policeman after he survived a Russian Roulette ordeal during a bus hijacking, police said today.

Authorities said police Cpl. Antonio Dionisio was on a bus that was flagged down and taken over late yesterday by five gunmen in suburban Valenzuela.

When the robbers discovered Dionisio was a policeman, they took his pistol, removed all but one bullet, and told him that he could go free if he survived the fourth squeeze of the trigger.

"You are a policeman. You ought to die. But I will give you a fair play. If you survive this game, I will give you back your life," a witness quoted a robber as saying.

To the astonishment of the robbers, Dionisio squeezed the trigger four times without the weapon firing.

● Priya (Ind. prog.)
Dilip Kumar, Amer Khan, Anil Kapoor
پریا (ہندی پروگرام) دیلیپ کمار، امر خان، انیل کاپور

● Excuse Me Baba
Mooen Akhtar
ایکسکوز می بابا
(Pak. sig. drama) موئن اکٹر

● The Legend of the Holy Grail
وہاگہ اسورس ۱: ہائے گریل
● The Legend of the Holy Grail
وہاگہ اسورس ۲: ہائے گریل
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وہاگہ اسورس ۳: ہائے گریل

Kings Video
Opp. Murqab Police Station
Tel: 2455500 - 2401040

● The Legend of the Holy Grail
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Fujimori traces Japan roots

Hero's welcome to Peru president-elect

KAWACHI, Japan, July 4. (AP): Peruvian president-elect Alberto Fujimori received a proud and happy welcome in his ancestral hometown today as he capped his tour of Japan.

Schoolgirls shrieked and chased Fujimori as if he were a movie star. Banners proclaiming "Bienvenido Presidente" streamed from large balloons to greet Fujimori in the hilly, tangerine-growing town of Kawachi on the southern island of Kyushu.

About 500 people waved tiny Peruvian flags and applauded in the neighbourhood his parents left almost six decades ago. A shout of "banzai" — a wish for long life — rose when he arrived.

Fujimori's parents emigrated to Peru at a time when Japan's economic conditions were poor and many people left the country in search of a better life.

Jisuko Yamaguchi, 67, said townspeople had stopped work at lunchtime to greet the famous visitor.

"This is a rare occasion," she said. "It's the first time ever for a person of Japanese ancestry to become a leader of a foreign country. It's wonderful. And from this village."

About 600 youngsters cheered Fujimori when he visited an elementary school, and 1,000 townspeople gathered in an auditorium where he received a plaque making him an honorary town citizen.

"Peru is a country with a grand civilisation and there is evidence that its ties with Japan go way back in history. I think the ties between our two countries are strong," Fujimori said in Spanish, though he had expressed thanks in Japanese.

"Kawachi blood is flowing in my veins," he said. "I have the strong blood of the immigrants from here to Peru. 60 to 70 years ago. I plan to use it for the



Alberto Fujimori (right) and Peru's Ambassador to Japan Luis Machiavello (left) in Japan. (Reuters wirephoto)

sake of my country. I want my country to become strong."

His nine-hour visit to Kawachi and the nearby prefectural capital, Kumamoto, was punctuated with speeches showing Japanese pride in the success of an emigrant's son.

In the evening, Fujimori was returning to Tokyo. He was to leave for home on Thursday.

Fujimori, who takes office July 28, is on a five-day visit to Japan seeking help for Peru's embattled economy.

ہندو اعتنا رکھیں

Albania plans leadership changes; 200 still holed up

BELGRADE, July 4, (Reuters): Albania will carry out urgent changes in its leadership and security service after about 200 people sought refuge in Western embassies in Tirana, Yugoslavia's Tanjug news agency said today.

"Key changes will be carried out urgently in the top Albanian political leadership, especially in the Interior Ministry and the national security service, the Sigurimi," Tanjug said.

Quoting "well informed sources who wish to remain anonymous," Tanjug said the Central Committee of the Albanian Communist Party would meet today or tomorrow to discuss the changes.

The Tanjug story, dated Belgrade, gave no further details but said the changes were prompted by the latest unrest in Tirana where scores of people scaled the walls of foreign embassies seeking to get out of the country.

Tanjug reported that a large crowd of people gathered in central Tirana today but that there were no fresh attempts to charge embassies.

About 200 Albanian dissidents were still holed up in embassies in Tirana while Europe's last Stalinist outpost considered whether to let them and thousands of other disgruntled citizens leave the country.

Western diplomats said Tirana's hardline govern-

ment was debating whether to issue more than 10,000 visas and passports to Albanians as a way to reduce growing discontent.

Dissatisfaction in isolationist Albania, which only recently began reforms which have swept the rest of Eastern Europe, surfaced dramatically this week when about 200 Albanians fled to foreign embassies in Tirana.

Dozens dodged bullets as they scaled walls or rammed trucks through gates to enter embassy compounds in search of haven and possible passage overseas.

Hungarian Foreign Ministry spokesman Janos Herman told Reuters today that Albanian author-

ities had offered all people sheltering in embassies the chance to leave their refuge and apply for passports.

He said applicants could be accompanied by embassy officials and return in the embassies to wait for the passports.

"The four in the Hungarian embassy have not accepted this," he said. "They are asking for further guarantees. I think there is a chance to find a solution."

Herman said some Albanians had left other embassies to apply for a passport. West German Foreign Ministry spokesman Juergen Chrobog said he had heard about the

Albanian offer but could not confirm it had been made at Bonn's embassy in Tirana, where 84 dissidents were billeted.

A West German Foreign Ministry crisis centre was trying to negotiate an agreement with Albania which would guarantee the safety of the dissidents.

"We are dealing with people who fear for their lives," a ministry source said.

"A solution must be found which convinces them that nothing will happen to them. We are hoping to reach an early solution."

Western sources said refugees had apparently sought shelter in the embassies of West Germany, France, Italy, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia,

Greece, Turkey and even China which last year deployed troops and tanks in crush its own dissidents.

Western diplomats said a handful of would-be refugees who had gone to the embassies of Bulgaria, Cuba and Egypt had been handed back to Albanian authorities.

Bulgaria denied it, saying Albanian police had dragged one asylum seeker who had entered the embassy back into the street, but that another youth was still inside the compound.

A bomb exploded in the compound of the Cuban embassy last night in what may have been retaliation for Cuba's eviction of would-be emigrants.

Gorbachev plays down split

Anti-communist demo in Moscow echoes mood of pre-revolution Russia

MOSCOW, July 4, (Agencies): Conservative delegates to the Soviet communist congress denounced radicals today but President Mikhail Gorbachev appeared secure in his centrist position between the party's feuding right and left wings.

Gorbachev, who is also party chief and must stand for re-election next week, sought to play down the clear division in ranks on the third day of the 28th party congress which could decide the future of Soviet communism itself.

Speaking to a group of foreign reporters, the 59-year-old reformist leader said: "No one at the congress has called into doubt the political course of perestroika (restructuring)."

"That is the main thing."

Gorbachev said the congress showed the concerns of all people, not just that of communists. It reflected "it is painful for me to see a wave of slander heaped on the CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union)," said delegate Artuk Azilov from the Central Asian city of Dushanbe, summing up the opinion of several right-wing delegates who took the floor.

In the opposing camp, democratic platform delegation chief Vladimir Lyenko told reporters his radical group would "fight to the end" to defend the reformist cause.

"Millions are watching us and they have got to be able to make a decision with the information in front of them," he said.

Lyenko later said democratic groups would stage mass rallies across the country on the weekend of July 14-15.

Russian Federation president Boris Yeltsin, a radical critic cast doubt over whether Gorbachev will be able to get a reformist majority.

He, however, said with an unco-operative Central Committee he might find his hands tied.

Gorbachev has said he expects major changes in the leadership and told the congress yesterday that four senior figures had already announced their intention of resigning, including junior politburo member Alexander Biryukov who is one of his backers.

The hardliners appeared to have decided to refrain now from outright attacks on Gorbachev like those that dominated last month's founding meeting of the Russian Communist Party.

Black anarchist banners waved alongside pre-revolutionary Russian flags and chants of "shame, shame" and "down with the Communist Party" rang out at a protest yesterday in Moscow's Gorky Park.

For the 5,000 demonstrators gathered under the Stalinist-style columns of the park's entrance, the Communist Party is already dead and buried.

"We've been living for 70 years under occupation, the occupation of the Communist Party...it's time to put an end to it," one speaker told the crowd.

The banners leave no room for compromise with communist party delegates struggling to save communist power at a crucial party congress in the nearby Kremlin.

"Long live the last congress of the Communist Party," read one mocking slogan. "Down with the empire of red fascism." "The Communist Party — a cancer on our people."

The desperate plight of the party was underlined by the appearance of one man.

Vladimir Lyenko, a radical party member and congress delegate, delivered a scathing condemnation of the force that had ruled unchecked since the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution.

"What is happening over there," he said, with a flourish towards the red-walled Kremlin, "gives me no hope for the formation of a new, truly democratic party."

Lyenko's Democratic Platform Faction has threatened to split from the party if the congress fails to undertake radical reforms. But a strong conservative force has made it clear there will be no major changes.



Gorbachev makes a point as talking with delegates and journalists outside the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses. (Reuters wirephoto)



Yeltsin is surrounded by journalists as he leaves the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses. (Reuters wirephoto)



Oleg Kalugin addresses a rally in Gorky Park. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kremlin notifies Lithuania

MOSCOW, July 4, (AP): The Kremlin has notified Lithuania that it is lifting a 10-week ban on rail deliveries of key foodstuffs, the last of the economic sanctions imposed to stop the Baltic republic's independence drive.

Lithuanian council of ministers spokesman Gintaras Yatkonis said today that rail shipments of goods should resume within two or three days, depending on the availability of rail cars.

Oil shipments resumed on Saturday, one day after the Lithuanian parliament agreed to freeze its March 11 independence declaration. Its law-

makers agreed to the freeze so that negotiations on independence with Moscow can begin.

Natural gas flowed back into the republic yesterday, said parliament spokeswoman Arune Kontaigaite.

Yatkonis said a telegram from the Soviet Transport Ministry addressed to Prime Minister Kazimieras Prunskiene arrived late yesterday, advising that the ban on rail deliveries had been lifted.

It was imposed to prevent Lithuanians from making private arrangements to receive sugar, coffee, fish, tea and citrus fruit from other parts of the Soviet Union and abroad.

people's "desire for a more direct approach," he said.

Hardliners, mourning the decline of the party's once uncontested power, seemed in a truculent mood today, giving vent to their feelings by word and deed.

But they have said they would support Gorbachev's continued party leadership, due to be decided at the congress next week.

The conservatives almost drowned out moderate Moscow party chief Yuri Prokofiev with repeated bursts of rhythmic hand-clapping as he addressed the gathering at the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses.

Others focused their fire on ideology chief Vadim Medvedev, a Gorbachev ally, lashing him for failing to lay down a clear marker for the party to follow in the midst of change.

Radical changes likely in Nato

LONDON, July 4, (Reuters): Nato leaders are preparing radical changes in style and substance at a summit opening tomorrow, aware that the Western alliance must adapt to post-cold war realities or be thrown onto the scrapheap of history.

The London summit, widely regarded as the most important since Nato was founded to counter the Soviet threat in 1949, is aiming to reassure Moscow that the 16-nation alliance poses no danger and convince public opinion that it still has a role.

US President George Bush has proposed new measures to achieve these aims: which also may help overcome Moscow's resistance to a united Germany's membership of Nato.

Initial reaction from Washington's allies has been positive.

"We want to send a signal to the Soviets, to Germans both East and West, to Eastern Europeans and ... to our own publics in the Nato nations," US Secretary of State James Baker said yesterday.

"The point is to make sure that the alliance stays vital and alive as we try to rebuild Europe," said a senior Nato official.

Our aim will still be to ensure security and peace, to make sure that what we have built up is not torn apart by events. It's a turning point for us."

Decades of confrontation that led to the biggest military build-up in history are over, now that the Warsaw Pact and hard-line communism in Eastern Europe have crumbled.

As Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev struggles to patch up his economy and retain control of the Communist Party, Nato leaders will be considering how to tone down the alliance's military role and make it more political.

Bush's package for discussion at the two-day summit, to be held in a 19th-century mansion near Buckingham Palace, would bring major changes to long-standing military doctrine and set the stage for making Nato a more effective political forum.

President George Bush is proposing that Nato use its nuclear forces only as a last resort, changing a defence doctrine in effect since the late 1960s.

"The reaction we have so far received ... is one of considerable receptivity," from five out of six Nato allies consulted, National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft told reporters accompanying Bush.

US Secretary of Defence Dick Cheney said today a growing concentration of Soviet military power on the flanks of Nato might be partly aimed at dodging arms control in Europe.

Cheney, in Oslo at the start of a two-week visit to Europe, said the Soviet Union was transferring some forces to the flanks, to areas facing Nato-members Norway and Turkey, as democratic reforms swept Eastern Europe.



Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama is all smiles at the start of a G-24 meeting in Brussels yesterday where Western industrial countries will be discussing an aid package for Eastern Europe. Behind him is Luxembourg's Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Georges Wiltart. (Reuters wirephoto)

\$12b fund likely West all set to extend aid

BRUSSELS, July 4, (Agencies): Western industrial nations began talks today which could lead to the setting up of a \$12 billion special aid fund to help the new democracies of Eastern Europe make the transition from communism to capitalism.

Foreign ministers at the 24-nation talks were also expected to discuss the controversial question of whether the West should mount a separate aid package to help Mikhail Gorbachev pull the ramshackle Soviet economy out of a deepening crisis.

The talks, on the eve of a two-day Nato summit starting tomorrow in London and ahead of next week's Houston summit of the seven biggest industrial democracies, are expected to give a strong signal of Western support for the sweeping economic reforms now being introduced by Moscow's former satellites.

Officials from the European Commission, which was last year given the task of co-ordinating Western aid for Poland and Hungary, said the "group of 24" nations would agree to extend the safety net to take in East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

The group, also known as G-24, was set up after last July's world economic summit in Paris.

It takes in all 12 EC states, the six members of the European Free Trade Association, plus the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Turkey.

Romania has pointedly not been invited to the one-day talks, reflecting Western concern at the violent suppression of unrest in Bucharest in June by miners loyal to President Ion Iliescu.

But, while the 24 nations are likely to nod through the extension of the Western safety net to the four extra countries, a proposal for Nato membership of the European Community's executive, to set up a 10 billion European currency unit (\$12 billion) pool of funds to help Eastern Europe is likely to be controversial.

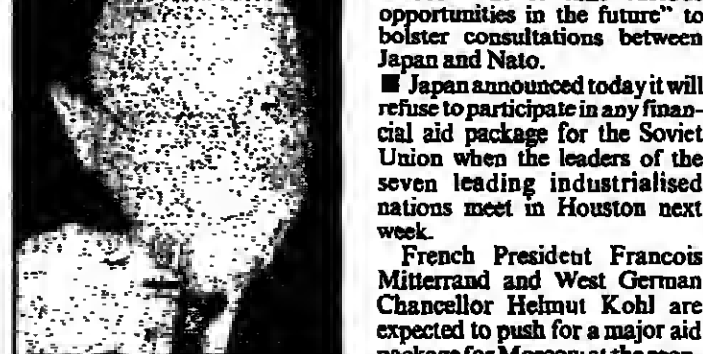
Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama yesterday told North Atlantic Treaty Organisation members that his country supports a unified Germany as a member of the Western alliance.

"I expressed Japan's support for Nato membership of a unified Germany," Nakayama said through an interpreter after meeting for one hour with Nato Secretary-General Manfred Woerner at the alliance's head office.

Nakayama also said he "would like to take various opportunities in the future" to bolster consultations between Japan and Nato.

Japan announced today it will refuse to participate in any financial aid package for the Soviet Union when the leaders of the seven leading industrialised nations meet in Houston next week.

French President Francois Mitterrand and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl are expected to push for a major aid package for Moscow at the economic summit in Houston, which starts Monday.



Hans-Dietrich Genscher is all smiles. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bonn coalition fails to agree

'Unity' poll plan

BONN, July 4, (Reuters): West Germany's coalition government failed today to agree on procedure for all-German elections which could decide whether smaller East German parties win seats in the new, unified Parliament or not.

The question — at first sight a minor procedural matter — is whether the elections should come before or after formal unification with East Germany.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) and their Liberal Free Democrat (FDP) allies did agree that the first free all-German vote since 1932 should take place on Dec 2, endorsing the date suggested by East Germany.

The CDU would like the two states to hold separate elections on that day, with unification formally taking place at midnight.

But the FDP say unification should come first, followed by a single election in which all Germans take part.

Separate elections would mean members of the same Parliament being elected on different terms, FDP leader Otto Lambdort said in a radio interview.

"There must be a single electoral law for a single Parliament in a single electoral area," he said.

Under West German law, a party must win at least five per cent of the total number of votes cast in order to win seats in Parliament.

Kohl's CDU argues that small East German parties might clear this hurdle in an election limited to their own state, but would fail to win any seats if they had to win five per cent across both nations.

"You would have to win 23 per cent of the votes in East Germany in order to have the equivalent of five per cent in the whole of Germany," Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaetzel said today. "I don't consider such an electoral procedure fair."

Ironically, East Germany's reformed communists, who command around 30 per cent of East German votes, could stand to benefit if the CDU has its way.

The two Germanys, which merged their economies on July 1, will agree what procedure to follow in negotiations on full political unification that starts on Friday.

Rita Suesmuth, the Speaker of Parliament in Bonn, said formal unification would probably have to come after elections because otherwise there would be problems in meeting the notice periods for elections laid down by law.

The Social Democratic (SPD) opposition accuses the CDU of trying to secure advantages for itself ensuring that its allies in East Germany's right-wing German Social Union (DSU) win seats.

The SPD issued a statement calling for a single election to be held as soon as the two countries unite.

The West German government yesterday agreed on its 1991 federal budget and proclaimed itself financially "well-prepared" for German unification.

The 1991 budget calls for overall government spending to rise to 324 billion German marks (\$196 billion) from 311.8 billion marks (\$189.9 billion) in the current year.

The deficit will widen slightly to 31.3 billion marks (\$18.9 billion) from 31.0 billion marks (\$18.7 billion) this year.

"West Germany is well prepared for the unification of Germany from a fiscal and economic policy point of view," Finance Minister Theo Waigel said in presenting the budget to reporters.

He repeated the government's promise that no tax increases would be needed to finance the German unification.

The two Germanys merged their economies on Sunday, when the West German mark became legal tender in East Germany.

The 1991 budget includes 6 billion marks (\$3.6 billion) for Bonn's so-called "German unity fund," a 115-billion-mark (\$69-billion) financing programme for East German economic recovery.

The government will borrow 95 billion marks (\$57 billion) of the total in the capital market.

Four ex-communists hold ministries in the Solidarity-led government under a deal reached last year between Solidarity and the former ruling party which was dissolved in January.

Mazowiecki became the first non-communist prime minister in eastern Europe since the 1940s when he formed his government last September.

Communists and representatives of parties formerly allied to them were included to guarantee a stable transition between communism and full democracy.

But Poles are growing increasingly restive at the government's harsh economic policies.

Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki will announce changes in his 10-month-old government on Friday, a senior Solidarity official said today.

Parliamentary leader Bronislaw Geremek told the official news agency Pao that Mazowiecki would make the announcement on Friday in an address to Parliament on the state of the nation.

Geremek gave no details of the proposed changes, but Mazowiecki is under intense pressure from Solidarity leader Lech Walesa to oust ex-communists from the government and spend up the process of democratisation.

Four ex-communists hold ministries in the Solidarity-led government under a deal reached last year between Solidarity and the former ruling party which was dissolved in January.

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Communists and representatives of parties formerly allied to them were included to guarantee a stable transition between communism and full democracy.

But Poles are growing increasingly restive at the government's harsh economic policies.

Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki will announce changes in his 10-month-old government on Friday, a senior Solidarity official said today.

Parliamentary leader Bronislaw Geremek told the official news agency Pao that Mazowiecki would make the announcement on Friday in an address to Parliament on the state of the nation.

Geremek gave no details of the proposed changes, but Mazowiecki is under intense pressure from Solidarity leader Lech Walesa to oust ex-communists from the government and spend up the process of democratisation.

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US showing more interest in Yeltsin once treated as a man of philosophical ideas

WASHINGTON, July 4, (Reuters): Washington is rooting for Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev to stop conservatives wrestling control of the Soviet Communist Party, but it is keeping an interested eye on leading radical Boris Yeltsin.

After Yeltsin visited the United States last September, US officials tended to dismiss him as a man of philosophical rather than pragmatic ideas and one official labelled him "an intellectual lightweight."

But since Yeltsin demonstrated his popularity and political skill in winning election last month as

President of the Russian Federation, the Soviet Union's largest and most powerful republic, attitudes in President George Bush's administration have changed.

"This guy has demonstrated he has a tremendous following," said one of the administration's most influential Soviet experts.

Another senior US official said Yeltsin, who is demanding a faster pace of reform in the Soviet Union and is seen as a major rival to Gorbachev, was now "more influential."

The US Ambassador to Moscow, Jack Matlock,

underlined the changed Washington attitude by having dinner with Yeltsin last week.

Bush has made a strong point of backing Gorbachev's "perestroika" reform programme. He seemed to go out of his way to use the Washington summit last month to give Gorbachev, under attack by conservatives and radicals at home, a boost.

Gorbachev basked in the summit limelight and used his joint news conference with Bush to lash out at Yeltsin, saying he was complicating efforts to restructure Soviet society.

At the time, US analysts like Dmitri Simes of the

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace faulted the administration for making "an inordinate investment" in Gorbachev while ignoring new leaders like Yeltsin.

He and many others have predicted that Gorbachev may be ousted or may have to share power with Yeltsin and others in a coalition government.

"We have to deal with the (Soviet) government that exists and to the extent opposition figures emerge, we deal with them as well and cultivate them," one senior US official said.

World News Roundup

America

NTSB finds pilot at fault: Federal safety investigators blamed the captain of US Air flight 5050 Tuesday for "failure to exercise command authority" when the plane skidded off a New York runway into the East River.

The National Transportation Safety Board, in a 4-0 vote, also said the plane's problems began with an erroneously set rudder control that the pilot failed to detect. It said it could not determine how the control was wrongly set. (AP)

Rash of crashes hit Alaska: A dozen airplanes crashed in Alaska over a 30-hour period, killing two people, causing tens of thousands of dollars in damage and overwhelming investigators.

"We've had so many crashes in the past two days, it's awesome," said Jim Michelangelo, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board in Anchorage. "Call me (next month) and we'll have them analysed and we may know the causes," he said yesterday. (AP)

Rappers, store owner charged: Three members of the 2 Live Crew Rap Group and a store owner who sold their album were formally charged Tuesday with obscenity in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Band members, Luther Campbell, Mark Ross and Chris Wongwon were charged with participating in an obscene performance, a first degree misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of five years in jail and a \$1,000 fine, according to the state attorney's office.

They were arrested after an adults-only concert in Hollywood, California, on June 10.

E-C Records owner Charles Freeman of Fort Lauderdale was charged with selling copies of the album, "As Nasty as They Wanna Be," which a federal judge ruled was obscene. (AP)

Set sights on Pluto: The troubled Hubble space telescope can see only "fuzzballs" where distant stars might be, but soon will be able to capture close-up images of Pluto and other planets, US space agency officials said on Tuesday.

Ed Weiler, chief scientist for the \$1.6-billion orbiting telescope at the headquarters of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, said Hubble could train its sights on Pluto by September and other planets in the near future. (Reuters)

FEC questions: The Federal Election Commission wants to know whether US subsidiaries of foreign companies should be able to run political action committees.

The commission voted 4-1 last Thursday to instruct its general counsel to draft a list of questions on which public comment should be sought.

Political action committees, or PACs, are organized by companies, unions, trade associations and interest groups of all kinds to solicit money from their members and give it to candidates. (AP)

Nuclear waste clean-up: Energy Department said Tuesday it will cost about \$6 billion in each of the next five years to store and clean up waste from the nation's nuclear weapons plants, nearly 50 per cent more than earlier projections.

The agency blamed the increase on the discovery of additional wastes at Energy Department sites and stricter government regulations that make the department and its contractors more susceptible to lawsuits.

It predicts a doubling of cleanup staff may be necessary to fulfill the Energy Department's new five-year waste management plan. (AP)

Blast rocks refinery: An explosion rocked an oil refinery near Pasadena, Texas, Tuesday, causing a massive fire.

The accident occurred at the Crown Central Petroleum refinery along the Houston Ship Channel in the early afternoon.

No details were immediately available.

Last October an explosion at the Phillips Petroleum Company's refinery in the same area killed 23 workers and injured more than 130.

Officials said the fire was in an atmospheric pressure unit that handles crude oil. (Kuna)

Doberman foils robbery: A gentle Doberman pinscher rescued from a dog pound execution earned his keep at his new home by foiling two thefts on his first night of freedom.

Save-A-Life, an animal welfare group, bailed Ziggy the Doberman out of the Chatham County animal control dog pound last week, just hours before he was scheduled to be killed.

Save-A-Life director Debbie Friedman said an anonymous woman called her and begged her to help the lovable stray.

"She was just sobbing. She said this wonderful animal was going to be destroyed... unless somebody stepped in," Friedman said Monday. (UPI)

No dwarf tossing in NY: Dwarf tossing may be the rage down under, but don't dare even think about it in New York state.

You may be tossed in jail.

Governor Mario Cuomo is studying a bill passed by state lawmakers that says it is too cruel to play the so-called sport from Australia in which dwarfs are buried under the feet of people.

"This is human exploitation of the worst sort. It hurts every little person in America by robbing them of the dignity they have spent years achieving," said state Senator Nicholas Spano, who backed the bill. (Reuters)



Watermelon season

A Muslim from the Uyghur minority in the western desert oasis of Turpan in Xinjiang province, loads watermelons. Watermelon season has swept across China as summer moves into full swing. (Reuters wirephoto)



Festival time

Winnie Mandela, wife of Nelson Mandela, opened the Zabalaza Festival at a stadium of Contemporary Arts on Tuesday. The Zabalaza festival is a collection of art work from South Africa. (Reuters wirephoto)



Banners raised

Demonstrators put up a banner on the gate of Gorky Park during a rally called by radical groups on Tuesday. Banner reads: "Polozkov and Ligachev mean paralysis for the country; Comrades, help punish society, resign from the Party: Two dangers in Russia: Maxism and carocracy." (Reuters wirephoto)

Teachers plead for advice: Educators from budding democracies in Eastern Europe have a message for their American counterparts: send experts, and maybe a copying machine or two.

Teachers, government officials and union leaders from Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Romania and Poland are attending the American Federation of Teachers annual convention in Boston this week.

They want information on how to teach democracy, how to set up freely elected unions and how to transform schools that for years operated as propaganda machines for hated regimes. (AP)

Iliescu confirms govt: President Ion Iliescu officially confirmed Romania's new government on Tuesday and expressed support for Prime Minister Petre Roman's reform programme.

It was the first time that Iliescu has publicly backed Roman's programme, which was approved by Parliament last week and surprised many Romanians with its declared goal of quickly moving to a market-based economy. (AP)

Publisher Girodias, 71, dies

PARIS, July 4. (AP) Maurice Girodias, a self-described troublemaker who battled with censors while publishing "Lolita," "Candy" and other erotic best sellers, died of a heart attack, associates said today. He was 71.

A team of paramedics rushed to the Jewish community radio studios in Paris but was too late to save Girodias, who had been giving an interview last night about the publication of his memoirs.

Girodias, the founder of Olympia Press in 1953, published first editions of works by Henry Miller, Lawrence Sanders, Samuel Beckett, Vladimir Nabokov, William Burroughs, J. P. Donleavy, Nikos Kazantzakis and Jean Genet, among many others.

Accused of promoting pornography, Girodias had numerous confrontations with French censors in the 1950s and 60s, spent several days in prison, and eventually was banned from publishing in France. He lived in exile in the United States from 1964 to 1974.

He estimated in 1964 that 65 to 70 of the 200 books published by Olympia had been declared "unsuitable" — meaning they could not be displayed or advertised.

Girodias was involved in avant-garde literature by age 14. He designed the cover for Miller's "Tropic of Cancer" when it was published in the mid-1930s.

Girodias later published Miller's "Sexus," "Quiet Days in Clichy" and "Tropic of Capricorn."

Hot weather: Boats cleared stinking slime from the Venice lagoon today as the hot weather brought the first signs of a threat that could ruin Italy's tourist industry for the second summer running.

Last year, hotels along Italy's slime-hit Adriatic coast lost more than \$1.4 billion because of a drop of up to 40 per cent in bookings, mostly from West Germany and Austria. (Reuters)

Actor to run against Havel: Stefan Kvietik, a well-known Slovak actor, will stand against Czechoslovakia's interim President Vaclav Havel in Thursday's presidential contest, the independent daily Mlada Fronta said on Wednesday.

The newspaper said Kvietik was formally proposed to the federal assembly, or Parliament, on Tuesday by the radical Slovak National Party whose campaigning for last month's parliamentary elections had heavy separatist overtones. (Reuters)

Meeting of European rightists: President Mario Soares, leftist political parties and others raised voices of protest on Tuesday at the beginning of a three-day meeting of right-wing European politicians.

Soares said those meeting at this small seaside resort 40 kilometres (24 miles) south of Lisbon were "racists, xenophobes, confessed supporters of violence," the national news agency Lusa reported. Among those attending was French National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen.

Speaking in the central city of Coimbra, Soares said the government could not stop the meeting of 17 extreme rightist French, Belgian and West German politicians elected to the European Parliament. (AP)

Toby beer jug: Mikhail Gorbachev has replaced an 18th century English gentleman in a new limited edition of Britain's famous toby beer jug.

The new mug, consisting of a figure of the Soviet leader sitting on a real fragment of the Berlin Wall, will go on sale in a limited edition of £100 at £25 (\$320) each.

Toby jugs are usually made in the form of a stout old man wearing a three-cornered hat. (Reuters)

Bikinis are fine but no swimming: Bermuda shorts, the fashion craze at French beaches, have just been banned in many Grenoble swimming pools in favour of the more traditional and skimpier bikinis and trunks.

Authorities in Grenoble, southeast French city said on Tuesday the knee-length shorts, worn as frequently on the street as in the pool, pollute water and endanger public health.

The more swimmers wear, the dirtier the water, they said. (Reuters)

Drug sales: A Swiss daily on Wednesday asked if Geneva had not become an "open market" for drug sales considering the ease of availability of "soft" drugs (like hashish) in the city.

The Tribune de Geneve said that every day several hundred grammes of cannabis are sold in certain focal points of the city, with the police often lending a blind eye to such transactions. (Kuna)

Air traffic: The Association of European Airlines said on Tuesday overall passenger traffic on its 21 member airlines showed a strong start to the holiday season with an 11.5 per cent rise in May compared with May, 1989.

The best results were seen on Far Eastern and Australian routes where passenger traffic rose 14 per cent in May to the highest level in 31 months, the AEA said. (AP)

Electronic dictionary: Thanks to an electronic dictionary, the French blind can now access 250,000 pages of information at the touch of a button.

For the first time, the 400,000-word laser-disc dictionary includes a Braille keyboard and screen-reader. It was put out by France's Hachette Publishing House with help from Dutch company Philips. (Reuters)

Belgian resident arrested: Customs officials at this border post arrested a Moroccan on Tuesday for trying to smuggle 10 kilograms (22 pounds) of heroin into the country.

A customs official identified the alleged smuggler as Zedadin Ferin, 58, a motor mechanic, resident of Antwerp, Belgium. He said that Ferin was travelling with a Belgian passport but also was found to be carrying a Moroccan and an American passport. (AP)



'Culling' plans suspended

The South African government said on Wednesday it had suspended plans to slaughter 30,000 seals for dog food after protests from animal lovers including French film star Brigitte Bardot.

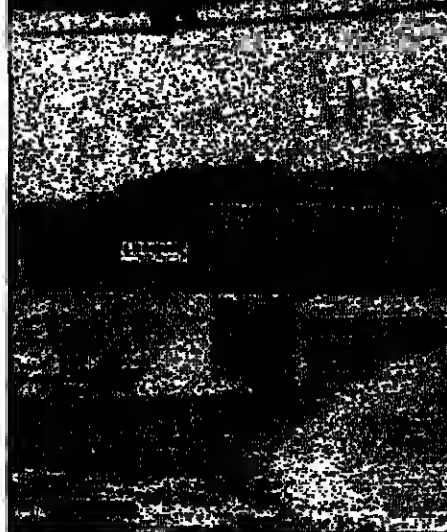
"In the light of misgivings about the procedure, the culling will be temporarily suspended," said Environment and Water Affairs Minister Gert Kotze.

"The culling of wild animals is always unpleasant, but unfortunately cannot always be avoided," Kotze told state-run radio from Portugal, where he is on an official visit.



Gone with the floods

The second story of a house is carried away and smashed against a dump truck due to strong floods caused by torrential rainstorms in Ichinomiya, Japan's southern island of Kyushu on Monday. 24 people have been killed and 30,000 houses wrecked in the last three days. (Reuters wirephoto)



Opening up

A man takes a walk through the former death strip on Tuesday. Since the currency union between East and West Germany got into force the East German government is going to open about hundred streets in Berlin which were closed for 29 years. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lee angry, outraged: Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said Wednesday he was "angry and outraged" by an opposition leader's speech indicating the prime minister knew a former cabinet member was contemplating suicide and took no action to stop him.

It was the second day of Lee's slander trial against J.B. Jeyaretnam, secretary-general of the Worker's Party. Lee said Jeyaretnam was "defiant and uncompromising" in refusing to withdraw remarks made at an election rally speech in August 1988.

It was the second time in nine months that Lee has taken the witness stand in Singapore's High Court. In a libel case last November, the justices ruled the Far Eastern Economic Review had made deliberate and malicious attacks on the prime minister's reputation and ordered the Hong Kong-based magazine to pay Lee \$115,000. (UPI)

Remains include women: Skeletons of several women were found among those said to have been the remains of up to 30 US soldiers discovered on a boat carrying Vietnamese refugees.

US Embassy press information officer Mary Allen Gilroy said, "It had been determined that some of the remains were those of women but we are unable to provide an exact figure."

A Taiwanese firm plans to club to death 25,000 seal cuba and about 5,500 adult hells off the west coast, starting in mid-July. It is paying 20 cents (eight US cents) for each seal it kills.

The meat would be used for dog food and the hells' genitalia for oriental medicines.

Environmental groups denounced the plan as barbaric and threatened lawsuits to have it stopped.

Bardot, former screen sex symbol turned environmentalist, said she would visit South Africa to try to stop the slaughter. (Reuters wirephoto)

Indonesia censors article: The latest Far Eastern Economic Review was released Wednesday from a three-day hold by government censors, who cut three pages about Indonesia.

One of the missing stories chronicles signals by military leaders that they might back a new man for president in 1992-93, when President Suharto's fifth term expires. (UPI)

Refugee holding centre: To stop push-backs into the open seas, a key US lawmaker called for a holding centre to be set up for boat people, saying such a centre was the only way to preserve the policy of first asylum.

Congressman Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, said boat people determined to be economic migrants — not political refugees entitled to resettlement in the West — could live in such a centre until they decide to return to Vietnam. (UPI)

Sutrisno calls for unity: Armed forces commander Gen. Try Sutrisno appealed for unity in Indonesia's strongly Islamic western province of Aceh, where up to 20 people have died in guerrilla strikes by extremists in the last three weeks.

Sutrisno's visit to Aceh follows a series of attacks launched by members of the security disturbance movement, or GPK. He said in an earlier interview that Indonesia is investigating reports that the extremists might be trained in Libya. (UPI)

Langusling in jail: A Malaysian youth, convicted for drug trafficking as a juvenile, has been languishing in police station lock-up for the last five years, according to a report here today.

Nobody knows how long he will be there. Or what lies ahead for him.

The report said the youth has been in the lock-up since he was 15 years old. He has shared the overcrowded lock-up most times with suspected drug addicts and even dangerous criminals waiting to be charged. (Kuna)

Flood, typhoon kill 31: The second typhoon in a week has hit China's coastal province of Fujian, killing at least nine people, the official People's Daily reported Wednesday.

In nearby Hunan, 22 people were killed when the province was hit by several days of torrential rain, the paper said.

The rainstorms, which ended Monday, also caused 4,430 buildings and 9,500 water conservancy facilities to collapse and flooded 110,000 hectares (272,000 acres) of farmland, it said. (AP)

Chichuashu prison break: As many as three inmates and two guards were killed in a riot at Chichuashu state penitentiary on Tuesday that authorities said was engineered by armed escapees.

About 30 prisoners escaped, including convicted murderers and drug traffickers. Most of the escapees had been reported recaptured by late Tuesday.

Reports conflicted on the number of convicts who fled, were killed and injured at the prison Tuesday afternoon.

The facility, which held 1,200 prisoners, was reported calm Tuesday night.

Chichuashu, State Attorney General Jose Miller said authorities had captured 19 of 32 fugitives late Tuesday, the independent news agency Excelsior reported. (AP)

Missing rights worker: US Ambassador Anthony Quainton is looking into the fate of Guadalupe Cordero, a human rights worker kidnapped from her home in Lima 24 days ago by hooded men in military uniforms, a US embassy spokesman said Tuesday.

The ambassador declined to discuss the case, but his press secretary, Gene Bigler, told United Press International that Quainton was looking into the fate of the missing woman, whose husband similarly was kidnapped and "disappeared" several years ago.

Quainton "has made inquiries and has consulted high officials and functionaries of the (Peruvian) government on the matter, demonstrating his concern," Bigler said. (UPI)

Cuban Aids policy praised: Cuba's top Aids specialist has said that although tough testing and isolation policies have reduced the spread of the disease on the Caribbean island, the actual behaviour of some young Cubans is still dangerously promiscuous.

Deputy Health Minister Hector Terry said on state television on Monday night that Cuba up to last Thursday had registered 458 carriers of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (Aids) virus, a tiny fraction of its more than 10 million population.

In the most frank Cuban media report on Aids so far, Terry said Cuba's policy of massive testing and obligatory isolation of Aids carriers appeared to be containing the spread of the virus. (Reuters)

Close eye on baby panda: A young mother panda in the heart of Mexico City gently cradles the only second-generation panda ever born outside China while zoo officials keep a 24-hour watch to prevent her from rolling over and crushing the tiny creature.

The 4.2-ounce (117-gramme) cub, as yet just a small bundle of pink skin, was born early on Sunday morning at Mexico's Chapultepec Zoo to a Burmese mother and a once-shy father, both from London.

"We're overjoyed at the news, but obviously a little tense too," the zoo's director Marielena Hoyos said on Tuesday, pointing out that the newborn is just three inches (7.5 centimetres) tall and in danger of being crushed accidentally by its 300-pound (135-kilogramme) mother. (Reuters)

Facing a new threat: Colombian big shots already dodging bombing and kidnapping attempts apparently face a new threat — stray bullets accidentally fired by their bodyguards.

Interior Minister Horacio Serpa Uribe and his wife learned about it at first hand Monday. Their bodyguard dropped his weapon at a military airport outside Bogota, discharging a single bullet that hit both Serpa Uribe and his wife, said a presidential spokesman, Gabriel Gutierrez. (Reuters)

Bomb deactivated: Soldiers deactivated Tuesday a massive car bomb containing a ton of dynamite presumably set by cocaine traffickers along the major Medellin-Bogota highway, an officer said.

In other violence reported Tuesday, three police officers were killed in Medellin and a high ranking government official and his wife were slightly wounded when a bodyguard's gun accidentally discharged.

Col Rodolfo Herrera Luna, commander of the army's 14th brigade, said the bomb was made of 11 large metal containers packed with nearly 2,200 pounds (one ton) of dynamite and wired to batteries. The vehicle was parked along the major Bogota-Medellin highway near Puerto Triunfo, 95 miles (150 km) northwest of Bogota. (UPI)

فكرات

Israel's Labour seeks new leader

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 4. (Reuters): Israel's battered Labour Party has taken the first step towards a leadership battle that could oust its leader Shimon Peres in favour of former head Yitzhak Rabin.

The party's constitutional committee ruled yesterday that there was no legal impediment to a party congress choosing a new leader and left it to a meeting of the Labour executive bureau scheduled for tomorrow to decide the next move.

"We deliver all these issues to be decided by the central body of the party... the door is open to those who seek something new," committee chairman David Libai told reporters.

Analysts expected the executive bureau to name a date for the 1,400 central committee members to vote on whether there should be a change in the leadership.

The party went into opposition when its coalition with Likud Party Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir fell apart in March. Peres failed to form a government with religious parties, paving the way for a right-wing coalition led by Shamir.

Rabin, the most popular candidate for prime minister according to opinion polls, said Labour should require any party leader to resign if he loses two elections. Peres has failed to win a clear victory in four elections since 1977.

Peres is party chairman and candidate for prime minister for the Likud Party in the next election, scheduled to be held in 1992. He requires a simple majority of delegates attending a central committee session, but 701 votes are needed to replace him as candidate for the nation's top job, regardless of how many delegates are present.

Labour-appointed ambassador to Egypt Shimon Shamir resigned yesterday, saying he was at odds with the new hard-right government.

Former Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who was in opposition to Labour Party until force early elections in Israel to revive peace talks and prevent a rise of extremism in the Arab world.

Rabin, said, peace moves had halted since Shamir formed a rightwing government last month.

The next elections are not required until 1992 but Labour must "try to bring down in a lawful way the government of Israel and to call for new elections," Rabin told a news conference.

Cyprus bid to join EEC

BRUSSELS, July 4. (Reuters): Cyprus applied today to join the European Economic Community but EEC diplomats said it was unlikely the island would be admitted so long as it remained politically divided.

Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iacovou submitted a formal membership application to Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis, who chairs the EEC Council of Ministers, Cypriot diplomats in Brussels said.

The application will be passed on to the EEC's executive commission for consideration. The commission has said the community should not consider accepting new members until after 1992, when it aims to have completed its single internal market.

EEC diplomats said the island's political status was likely to be an obstacle to membership. "It would be impossible to consider an application without clarification of what would happen to the situation in Cyprus," one diplomat said.

Cyprus has been divided since 1974 when Turkey invaded following a short-lived coup in Nicosia engineered by the military junta then ruling Greece.

Turkish Premier Yildirim Akbulut will meet with the new Greek leader Constantine Mitsotakis for the first time on Friday during a Nato summit in London.

Akbulut today flew to London to attend the summit, which starts tomorrow.

The Turkish premier said he wished during the meeting that Greece would show its willingness to start a serious dialogue to seek solution to bilateral problems without citing any preconditions.

'Arms proliferation may deter Mideast war'

Carter remarks in Philadelphia, suggests serious peace talks

PHILADELPHIA, July 4. (Reuters): Former US president Jimmy Carter said yesterday, that the proliferation of chemical and nuclear weapons in the Middle East may deter a new war in that troubled region.

"If a conflict does break out and a cross-border strike occurs, it is highly likely that chemical warfare or a chemical response would be used," said Carter,

who stated there was no doubt several Mideast countries had chemical weapons and that Israel possessed nuclear arms.

"This is a tragedy on the one hand, but on the other hand it might play a deterrent role since leaders might realise that cross-border strikes or invasions of another country's territory might result in a more catastrophic response than has previously

been the case."

Carter, who was in Philadelphia to receive an award, made his remarks in an interview with local reporters.

Tensions in the Middle East were heightened by a recent threat by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to "scorch half of Israel" with chemical weapons if Israel attacks an Arab country.

Carter, who as president mediated the Camp David peace accord between Israel and Egypt, said he has never considered Saddam "as playing a key role in bringing about peace."

He said the best way to check Saddam was to break what he called the current Mideast diplomatic stalemate through serious peace talks.



Jimmy Carter

Moscow demands serious guarantees

Vorontsov warns Israel of settling in held areas

MOSCOW, July 4. (Kuna): Moscow will halt the Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel if the Israeli government fails to offer serious guarantees that immigrants would not be settled in occupied Arab territories, according to a senior Soviet official.

The Kremlin's permanent United Nations envoy Yuli Vorontsov, in an interview with Kuna, stressed that President Mikhail Gorbachev could not be more serious when he warned Israel against settling new waves of immigrants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Vorontsov noted that any such action on the part of the Soviet Union

will be "complex" from a legal point of view but he believed the Soviet public would appreciate the legitimacy of the action.

Vorontsov, who talked to Kuna yesterday on the sidelines of the ongoing Soviet Communist Party's 28th congress, added that Moscow views assurances from Israeli Housing Minister Ariel Sharon as not serious enough.

He recalled that Gorbachev has demanded guarantees to this effect from the whole Israeli government.

The Soviet official underscored the need for Moscow to work

together with Arab countries and the United States to make Washington clear the way for Soviet Jews wanting to go to the United States.

He described the US tight restrictions on the emigration of Soviet Jews to the United States as deliberate obstacles.

Vorontsov indicated that Moscow was in direct contact with Israel over the immigration issue and pointed out that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will soon discuss the matter with Israeli officials at the United Nations.

Commenting on other Mideast developments, the Soviet official faulted the United States for having halted its dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

More specifically he believed the American move was a "manoeuvre" that Washington will soon find itself forced to "back down on." He expected this to happen soon.

Finland Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio said yesterday that Soviet Jews could begin next week to emigrate to Israel via Finland.

"The Finnish government sees no obstacles to the transit of Soviet Jews to Israel or any other country via Finland," Paasio said at a news conference after a special cabinet meeting.

The PLO has expressed shock and disappointment at Finland's decision to allow transit flights of Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel.

"This immigration is a military action against the Palestinian people, that Finland supports," the PLO's Finnish representative Zuhair Al Wazir said in a statement issued following the Finnish decision.

Israeli-backed militiamen killed three Arab commandos in South Lebanon outside the buffer zone set up to guard Israel's northern border, the army command said today.

The PLO is currently studying the possibility of taking a resolution to transfer its head offices from Tunis to Cairo following the transfer of the Arab League premises to Egypt later this year, press reports said in London today.

Israel army command said yesterday they had uncovered several gangs identifying with George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.



Protest

Amman, July 4. (AP): A group of left-wing demonstrators protesting the number of Arab youths jailed in occupied Jerusalem. The group says that 1,300 Arab prisoners in occupied Jerusalem have been killed since the start of the occupation 32 months ago. (Reuters wirephoto)

Arabs urged to stop rhetoric

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 4. (AP): Israel's chief of military intelligence called on Arab nations yesterday to tone down the threats before they become prisoners of their own rhetoric.

"Words do have an influence," Maj Gen Amnon Shahak said at a press conference for foreign journalists.

Shahak's statement came as tensions between Israel and its Arab neighbours were growing.

Israeli President Shimon Peres has repeatedly threatened to use heavy chemical weapons against the Jewish state in retaliation for any Israeli attack on an Arab country.

Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi, a longstanding enemy of Israel, is reported to be building a second chemical factory.

"Iraqi and Israeli citizens listen to Iraqi threats, and these do have an influence," Shahak said.

Saddam's threats of using binary chemical weapons started a campaign to prepare gas masks for distribution to every Israeli citizen.

Jordan's King Hussein pressed Arab states at the Baghdad summit in May for financial support to buttress his army against Israel.

However, Shahak said reports that Israel, Syria and Iraq were on military alert were exaggerations.

"There is no red-light situation in the region," he said, but conceded that "perhaps we are in a situation of a green light turning yellow."

He said governments in the region were deliberately raising tensions in order to create a sensation of crisis.

"These nations can then ask for foreign intervention in the region," he said, referring to reports that Arab nations would like the United States to pressure Israel into a more conciliatory position in its conflict with the Palestinians.

Shahak also addressed the deteriorated situation of the Western hostages believed held in Lebanon by radical Islamic Shiite groups.

Israel may free Shiite prisoners

Jewish officer meets Lahd

BEIRUT, July 4. (AP): An Israeli army officer was quoted yesterday as saying that some of the 300 inmates held in south Lebanon may be freed soon, a key demand of Shiite Muslim factions holding Western hostages.

Voice of the South, a radio station controlled by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia, said the remark was made by Brig. Gen. Zeev Zakharin. It identified him as an officer in Israel's north front command.

A military source in Tel Aviv identified Zakharin as chief liaison to Lebanon.

The source, who requested anonymity, said what is under consideration is a "traditional" release of inmates on the occasion of Islam's three-day holiday of Eid al Adha which began Monday. The source would give no other details.

Voice of the South, said Zakharin toured Israel's self-designated "security zone" with Maj. Gen. Antoine Lahd, a retired Lebanese Army officer who

heads the 3,000-strong SLA. The broadcast added that Zakharin met on his tour with "Lebanese notables."

He told them Israel would soon consider the issue of the inmates at Khiyam, in the security zone, and "possibly release some of them," the broadcast said. It gave no other details.

Pro-Iranian fundamentalists holding most of the 16 Western hostages have demanded the release of these prisoners.

The Khiyam inmates are being held on suspicion of involvement in or support of a commando warfare seeking to oust the Israelis from Lebanon.

They were captured in sweeps after Israel carved out the 440-square-mile (1,100-square km) security zone in 1985, ostensibly to guard against cross-border commando raids.

The strip is policed jointly by the SLA and 1,000 Israeli troops. The hostages are six Americans, four Britons, two West Germans, two Swiss, an Italian and an Irishman.

Bekaa schools 'closed for opium season'

Principals, teachers and students busy poppy-picking

BAALBEK, Lebanon, July 4. (AP): Spring is poppy-picking time, and schools around this ancient Roman city put up signs reading "closed for the opium season."

Principals, teachers and students go into the fields of east Lebanon's fertile Bekaa valley to harvest the "alfoon," the opium poppies whose sap is the base for heroin sold in the United States, Europe and the Middle East.

"We have to make a living," said a school principal working in the fields, who identified himself only as Hussein. "How can I support a family of six on 50,000 pounds (\$80) a month?"

The Bekaa once was the breadbasket of Lebanon, but traditional agriculture has given way to more profitable crops.

About 20,000 Bekaa residents, including 700 students as young as 8, earn \$4 a day each for harvesting the sap from poppies during the month-long season.

Farmers said 40,000 kilogrammes

(88,000 pounds) of the extract would be refined this year into 4,000 kilogrammes (8,800 pounds) of heroin worth hundreds of millions of dollars at street prices in the United States.

Burma, the world's leading opium producer, is expected to harvest at least 40 times as much as Lebanon.

Sources in Baalbek said there were up to 10 heroin-processing laboratories in the Bekaa, three run by Frenchmen. They said several Westerners were seen regularly at the homes of the area's drug dealers.

The Bekaa has long been a major source of narcotics. For years, it produced large quantities of high-grade hashish that Lebanon's private armies, Christian and Muslim, smuggled to make money for weapons.

After 15 years of civil war, the central government has become almost powerless to curb the drug trade and hashish has given way to opium.

Farmers said hashish, made from

marijuana, was less profitable and more difficult to transport because of its greater bulk.

Growers can sell a kilogramme (2.2 pounds) of opium extract for \$100 to the clans who run the narcotics business in the Bekaa, but a kilo of hashish fetches only \$8 to \$20 depending on quality.

Farmers in Baalbek said this year's yield was their best yet, which reduced the price of raw opium to half the \$200 a kilogramme (\$90 a pound) it brought last year.

Drug-dealing clans have long-standing links to the militias and to the Syrians, who occupy the Bekaa, so the civil war rarely touches the valley. The clans sell heroin to major drug cartels for about \$350,000 a kilogramme (\$160,000 a pound).

Western narcotics agencies say the Lebanese heroin trade is worth about \$1.4 billion a year, but banking sources in Western Europe, where much of the drug money is laundered, give estimates of up to \$5 billion.

Sudan warned of revolt, violence

LONDON, July 4. (Reuters): A former Sudanese minister said in remarks published today that opposition to Khartoum's military rulers could grow into armed struggle and involve the army itself.

"If the present regime... continues to use violence and oppression, violence will only beget violence. Armed struggle will spread," said Mubarak Al Mahdi, interior minister in the government ousted by a military coup a year ago.

"I think that if this regime continues in its practices it will make the Sudanese army itself revolt, in other garrisons if not in Khartoum. The army would split then," Al Mahdi told the London-based Arabic newspaper Al Hayat.

In a thinly veiled threat, he said the opposition was stronger since rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) joined a national democratic alliance grouping former parties dissolved by the military leaders.

General Omar Hassan Al Bashir seized power from an elected government in a coup in June 1989, vowing to stop corruption, end the civil war in the south and reform an ailing economy.

Al Mahdi said political leaders of the alliance had agreed that armed opposition was legitimate, "because the other side is carrying arms against civilians and other political forces."

Dr. Ibrahim Ibrahim, a Sudanese physician and politician, said the Sudanese army itself revolted, in other garrisons if not in Khartoum. The army would split then," Al Mahdi told the London-based Arabic newspaper Al Hayat.

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Toll lesser than feared

Figures exaggerated: Iran

NICOSIA, July 4. (Reuters): President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said today after touring quake-hit northwest Iran that the death toll was below 34,000, lower than first feared.

Rafsanjani also said the humanitarian aid rushed by foreign countries to help quake victims would "naturally affect" Iran's policies towards them.

"It seems the death toll should be lower than the figure of 34,000-35,000 which was given," he told Tehran Radio.

"The figures were somewhat exaggerated in the villages. On closer inspection we have found casualties to be fewer and material damage greater (than what we originally thought)."

His estimate contradicted one earlier in the day by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, who told the UN Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc) in Geneva that 50,000 people were thought to have died in the quake on June 21.

Speaking after a day-long tour of stricken areas in Zanjan province, Rafsanjani said Iran's biggest need was construction material to build shelter for some half a million people made homeless by the quake.

In the last authoritative count a week ago, the head of Iran's Red Crescent Seifollah Vahidi Dastjerdi told a news conference in Tehran that 4,000 bodies had

been recovered in Zanjan and 35,000 to 36,000 in Gilan. Rafsanjani said with the emergency relief operations largely over, the big task was to replace more than 100,000 homes destroyed by the quake.

"The big need which has to be somehow procured from abroad is building materials. If someone wants to help our people with such material we will accept naturally," he said.

Scores of foreign countries, including such traditional enemies of Iran as the United States, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, sent emergency relief supplies for the quake victims.

Asked about media reports linking the aid to a possible shift in Iran's policies, Rafsanjani said it was natural for countries to help each other in major disasters.

"If they mean that the aid affects the relations, well, when compassion is shown it does naturally affect (the relations) and I admit it."

"But if they mean that there are strings attached and something is imposed on the aid-receiver, this is nonsense."

Private aid organisations which sent teams and supplies to help Iranian earthquake victims are protesting moves by the French government to capitalise on their efforts.

'British ties separate from Rushdie death order'

GENEVA, June 4. (Reuters): Iran's death order against British author Salman Rushdie still stands but the issue is separate from Iran's diplomatic relations with Britain, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said today.

He made clear in subsequent remarks, however, that Iran did link the two questions and did not intend to restore diplomatic ties unless Britain condemned Rushdie's book "The Satanic Verses," which Iran views as an insult to Islam.

"We have to separate these two issues, this Rushdie issue and Iranian-British relations," Velayati told a news conference during a visit to the United

Nations European headquarters. The late Iranian spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, last year ordered Muslims around the world to put Rushdie to death.

"What our late imam issued was an Islamic verdict which is not changeable and which is still valid," Velayati said, adding that the order was approved by all 46 members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

He said the Foreign Ministry was bound by a law passed last year by the Iranian Parliament which set conditions for the resumption of ties.

MOH to ensure optimum health services

Utilities to be well staffed and supplied

THE Ministry of Health has formulated a comprehensive plan to supply hospitals and health centres with their total requirements of specialised cadres, including the state-of-the-art medical equipment.

According to priority to medical needs, Faisal Al Dousari, the public relations director at the Ministry, said that no efforts are spared to ensure optimum

health services in the state.

He added that although all health utilities in Kuwait receive the same concern and attention accorded to the Sabah Health Area, the latter comprises a number of specialised hospitals and centres and is considered a complete medical city. The ministry seeks to develop this area to offer all specialised medical services and to be a

centre of health research.

Highly specialised surgeries are being conducted in Kuwait successfully and the success rates achieved by these specialised centres compare very favourably with those of international hospitals in the world, Dousari said.

He pointed out that the Sabah Hospital, last year attended to 404,397 outpatients,

with 20,552 patients being admitted to different wards, a total of 23,307 different surgeries were undertaken during the same period. Ibn Sina Hospital dispensed medical services to 164,384 outpatients and admitted 7,776 patients in its various wards. A total of 7,338 surgeries were also conducted during the same period, the official said.

Haj tragedies

Muslim faithful undeterred

CAIRO, July 4. (Reuters): Taught that death at Islam's holiest shrines is a ticket to paradise, millions of Muslims flock to Saudi Arabia every year undeterred by Haj tragedies.

Witnesses said many pilgrims were killed on Monday in a stampede in the Al Musaiem tunnel leading to Mina near Mount Arafat where the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) preached his last sermon 14 centuries ago.

The tragedy at the height of this year's Haj (pilgrimage) follows bombings, riots, shooting and intense political wrangling associated with this key festival of the Muslim faithful.

But these events rarely touch the vast majority of pilgrims, often frail and elderly, who have saved throughout their working lives to make the pilgrimage demanded of Muslims at least once in a lifetime.

They face the rigors of the journey to Holy Makkah and the exhausting physical demands and threat of dehydration as they pace the parched land.

This year temperatures hit 43 degrees Centigrade (109 Fahrenheit) as a sea of white-robed faithful trudged 11 km (seven miles) from Holy Makkah to Mount Arafat where the ritual Tawaf — circling seven times around the Kabaa at the heart of Makkah's Grand Mosque.

Some 1.5 million Muslim men and women converged on Arafat in Sunday's climax of the annual pilgrimage, bareheaded and saying aloud "Allahu Akbar" (God is Great).

At sunrise on Monday and shortly before the tunnel tragedy, pilgrims ritually stood three markers representing Satan, who is believed to have appeared in the days of the patriarch Abraham.

Three new slaughterhouses hatched up to half a million sheep, goats and cattle for Eid Al Adha (the Feast of the Sacrifice) which marks the end of the pilgrimage.

Oil-rich Saudi Arabia is pouring \$6.4 billion into schemes for making the Haj secure and safe for its guests.

It also ferries thousands of poor pilgrims free of charge on its fleet of jumbo jets, gives medical care, supplies running water for tented cities, constructs sunshades, distributes free umbrellas and millions of bottles of cold water.

Saudi Arabian security is tight. Helicopters hover. Armed soldiers abound. Uniformed police help Islamic guides direct the pilgrim flow. Ambulance crews are on standby. Plainclothes security men mingle ready for the slightest sign of unrest.

Despite all these efforts tragedies still occur and hundreds die each year from old age, sunstroke and the occasional epidemics.

In 1987, 400 mainly Iranian pilgrims were killed in clashes with Saudi security forces during anti-Western protests.

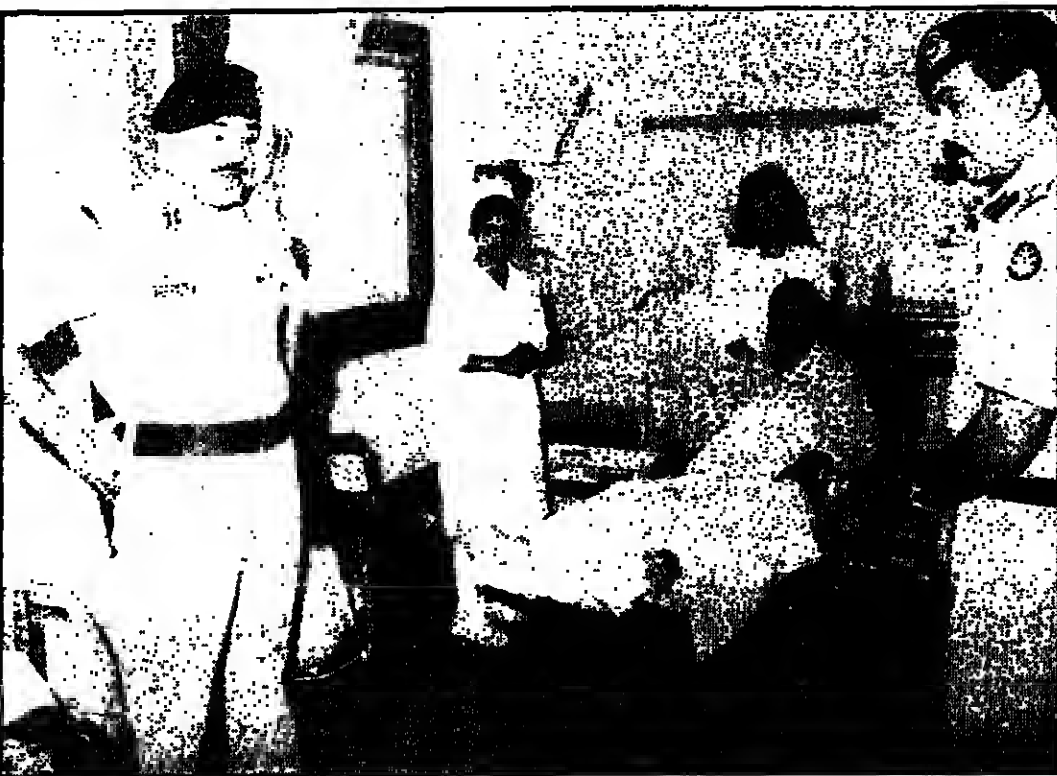
Last year, bombs exploded near Holy Makkah killing one pilgrim and wounding 16.

About 250 armed Muslim extremists took over the Grand Mosque in Holy Makkah in November 1979. Over 100 of them and 127 Saudi troops were killed in a two week siege. But this was not during the main pilgrimage season.

In the Islamic world, King Fahd's prestige is largely linked to maintenance of the shrines and the conduct of the Haj.

Aware of this responsibility King Fahd prefers the title "Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques", a reference to the Grand Mosques in Makkah and Medina.

The deaths of pilgrims in the tunnel crush was described by the king as "the will of Almighty God and there is no human or power on earth which can avoid God's will."



Eid visits

The commander of military operations Col Faleh Abdullah Al Shatti of Kuwait Army paid visits to a number of units of Kuwait Army on the occasion of Eid Al-Adha. Seen in the picture is Col Shatti (above left) during his visit to patients at the Military Hospital.

Meanwhile the commander of operations of the land force of Kuwait Army Col Yousef Ubaid Al Enzi (below centre) also paid visits to units on the occasion of Eid Al Adha.



Health care association to draw up basic charter

Mother and child

DR LAILA AL DOUSARI, the deputy director of the Central Department for Preliminary Health Care and the chairman of Preliminary Health Care Association at the Ministry of Health has said that the association will hold several meetings during the next few days to draw up the basic charter and the by-laws of the association.

In an interview with the daily Al-Sayassah, the official said that the general assembly of the association will hold its meeting in November to debate the proposed basic charter and the by-laws of the association.

Dr Dousari said that the association aims among other things at the upgrading of physicians working in preliminary health care units in addition to the convening of specialised conferences and establishment of necessary relations with similar associations abroad.

Speaking on mother and child care, the official said that this service constitutes an important part of preliminary health care. She pointed out that care and medical supervision, when a woman is pregnant, is an essential element for the mother and the foetus. She added that care

should be extended to the baby up to the fifth month, describing such a care as comprehensive.

She added that prenatal and postnatal care is being extended through maternity and gynaecology clinics.

Centres

Speaking of birthing services, the official said that several centres were being set up in different areas to extend such a service around the clock. These areas include Farwaniya, Hawalli, Jahra, Um Al Himan, Failaka, Sulayhiyah and Fahahel. In addition the birthing service will be extended to private residences around the clock under the supervision of specialised nurses who will be properly equipped.

Meanwhile, the official disclosed that there are 24 maternity centres throughout the country in addition to about 32 gynaecology clinics. On the other hand, the official said that these centres had received about 38,592 cases from July 1, 1988 to June 30th, 1989. 13,659 cases had been referred to the hospitals. Specialised clinics at these centres received about 8,588 cases during the same period.

Speaking of social services at the maternity and childhood centres, the official said that this kind of service was extended through 20 centres and under the supervision of about 11 sociologists. These centres were undertaking necessary health awareness programmes, the highlighting of the preventive role as well as the conducting of social studies.

Meanwhile, the official has called for paying more attention to the preventive aspect. She clarified that the preventive aspect was not represented only by the vaccination process but health cases of children must be followed up in addition to health guidance and nutrition.

In conclusion, the official called on pregnant mothers to communicate with the maternity centres in the early stages of the pregnancy.

He added that the study which had been conducted by a specialised technical team had carried out a field survey on historical buildings in Kuwait City and were classified as follows: private buildings, buildings affiliated to the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, buildings affiliated to the state domains department, buildings affiliated to the Ministries of Interior, Education, Public Health and Water and Electricity.

The study showed that out of 122 buildings over 12 buildings were previously listed, while another 24 buildings affiliated to the state domains department were not,

7 Quran centres in Kuwait

SHEIKH Fahad Al Shuwaih, head of the permanent committee for Holy Quran memorisation Centres at the Islamic Revival Society has said that the committee opened seven Holy Quran recitation and memorisation centres in Kuwait.

In order to achieve the committee's objectives, it organises open courses of 3 months duration for those interested in learning Quran recitation and memorisation. He added that such courses were given by experts in Quranic readings.

Regarding the centres curricula, Sheikh Shuwaih added that curricula given to participants at the centres are approved by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs. He pointed out that centres are willing to accept students from 5-12 years old.

He stressed that among the committee's future plans was to expand and increase the number of Quran recitation and memorisation centres to include all areas of Kuwait. The committee also intends printing a special copy of the Holy Quran which contains explanations.

Sculpture design for Kuwait requested

THE chairman of Kuwait's Engineers' Society, Bader Al-Rifai has called on the architects and Kuwaiti formative artists to submit their design for a commemorative sculpture for Kuwait.

He added that the society will appreciate the efforts to be exerted in this connection by the architects and formative artists and the winning designs will be given KD10,000 to be distributed as follows: first prize KD 5,000, second prize KD 3,000 and the third prize KD 2,000.

He added that architects and artists who would like to take part in the competition are invited to have their names registered with the society and under obtain competition conditions. He added that the closing date for registration is July 19, while the closing date for the submitting of the designs is Oct 15.

Quake relief

KUWAIT, July 4. (Kuna): Kuwait did not stop sending emergency aid to the earthquake victims in Iran during Eid Al Adha holidays, in accordance with HH the Amir's instructions and cabinet's decision last week, Kuna learnt.

Military and commercial planes bound for Iran have been flying at a rate of seven planes per day, carrying medicine, medical equipment, foodstuff, blankets and tents.

Nearly 40 planes have left here for Iran since the destructive tremor hit northern areas of the Islamic Republic of Iran June 21.

More flights will carry various relief aid materials during the rest of the Eid holidays and for many weeks to come.

The diwan of HH the Crown Prince and Premier supervised the preparation, loading and the conveyance of the aid to the Iranian government.

Youth unhappy with recreational facilities

Time hangs heavy

WITH the onset of each summer holiday, the problems of youth appear to knock a warning bell to officials who have the responsibility of providing recreational facilities to these youths.

Youths have been cited for several acts of vandalism and disruptions during these summer vacations and they in turn have continually demanded that a solution to their recreation should be examined. They stated that most public clubs and other recreational facilities are usually closed to them. Specifically, they cited the case of the Entertainment City where youth are barred from entering — except once a week.

A local daily interviewed a number of parents and youths to highlight their opinions on the issue.

Rasheed Abdullah, a retired employee said that he has five children — the oldest being 24 years old. He complained that sports clubs do not give his children the opportunity of enlisting as members in these clubs without "wasta". He called on authorities to open public libraries, organise contests and activate constructive forms of entertainment for youth.

He said that he keeps a close watch on his children on a continual basis — specially during the summer holidays when time "hangs heavy" on their hands.

Daham Al Enzi complained of the unruly behaviour of youths at residential areas. He stated that most youth indulge in bad habits like smoking and create many problems during summer. Many harassment cases have been reported at the sea front and at local markets. He stressed that parents should apply strong censorship on their children during summer in addition to giving them good directives towards spending their leisure times in constructive activities.

He called upon officials to build more sports clubs for youths, adding that some of the areas have only one sports club with a limited number of members. He said that sports supervisors should be provided with incentives due to their important role in creating a healthy generation for future.

On the other hand, Khaled

Mohsen Al Khaledi, who is in the second intermediate grade, stated that the summer holiday is very long and boring to him and that the only way to kill his leisure time was to watch television. He added that most youths are treated unfairly by others particularly families. He added that most recreational areas were reserved for families only.

Nafe Al Thafert, a student at the secondary stage of education said that he feels lonely during summer. He stated that he tries to indulge in many hobbies but, unfortunately some hobbies require money. He added that he had bought some pigeons to train as a hobby but the experiment was short-lived. He said that he will travel to Tunisia along with his family.

Muzi Ghazi stated that youths in Kuwait are being highly neglected. Most people have directed accusations to all of them because of harassments in public places. In order to kill time he nearly watches 4-5 video movies on television and plays soccer at other times. He called upon officials to start organising contests and cultural activities for youth.

Certain sectors in high demand

Market activity

KUWAIT'S commercial sector has witnessed fluctuations with the start of the travelling season. Sectors like shops, exchange companies and travel agencies are highly active during this season.

Al-Sayassah toured several market sectors which have been witnessing a strong wave of activity this season. At the exchange market, shop owners stated that they shouldn't be blamed for the hike in exchange prices of different currencies particularly the dollar. They added that the hike of the dollar was an ordinary reaction to the increased demand and shortage in supply. Market sources indicated that the monetary exchange price of a dollar exceeded 300 fils, eight fils more than the official exchange price at the Central Bank.

On the other hand, owners of clothing shops and popular markets said that the beginning of the travelling season was a time of competition for all shops. They added that they have lowered their prices in order to attract the largest number of customers. They said that shopping for the summer holiday was one of the important aspects for most travellers.

Meanwhile, owners of travel offices stated that prices did not witness any changes despite the stronger demand on air tickets. They added that customers who are not able to obtain tickets for a specific destination for a specific price change to another destination in order to escape the hot weather during summer.

One of the residents preparing to leave the country for the summer stated that in order to avoid any problems and confusion prior to travelling, he advises travellers to get ready ahead of time.

Season

Imad Al Deen Mustafa a manager at a clothing and shoe store said that this particular sector does not suffer stagnation periods. He pointed out that the market suffers stagnation only during January and February of each year and the most active sales season was during June and July which marks the beginning of the travelling season in Kuwait. He added that most people only shop once during Eid Al Adha. Compared to Ramadan, sales only represent 30 per cent. He stressed that the travelling season compensates them a lot when sales are highest during July and August. He indicated that most of their customers buy in huge amounts during these two months particularly as gifts for their relatives back home.

He pointed out that due to the large demand on goods during the travelling season many shops compete to attract the highest number of shoppers. Owners of these shops apply new and popular advertising methods to display their goods. In general, sales at commercial shops decrease every year due to the appearance of commercial complexes which provide shoppers with every comfort like car parking lots, restaurants and the large number of variety shops.

On the other hand, Abdul Hameed Al Refai, the man in charge at one of the popular markets said that his market provides all types of goods. He said that the last ten days of Ramadan each year witness the highest sales of the year yet sales are still active. He pointed out that most customers belong to the middle and low income class and that is the main reason prices are kept as low as possible.

Al-Sayassah also visited the exchange market in Mubarakiya. Ahmad Hussain, one of the shop-owners, rejected accusations that merchants exploit the travelling season. He said that the rise in the dollar exchange rate was due to shortage in supply and high demand.

An official at one of the travel agencies said that his office has achieved high sales in air tickets equivalent to the whole year's sales. He pointed out that tickets prices are stable due to the limited number of seats available.

Simple jail terms for illegal aliens

TWO Iraqi defendants identified as Faysal and Hassan were sentenced to one month and three months in jail respectively to be followed by deportation from the country by Kuwait's Criminal Court on the charge of illegally entering the country and attempting to smuggle into the country 49 cartons of liquor, a local daily reported.

The court was told that the defendants were caught at Um Al Rous Camp and they acknowledged that they were trying to illegally enter the country, but they denied that the confiscated quantities of liquor belonged to them.

However, the court based its sentence on their attempt to enter the country and acquitted them from the charge that they tried to smuggle liquor.

Meanwhile, the court sentenced one defendant to three months in jail to be followed by deportation from the country on a charge of stealing a television / video and some tapes from a diwan.

Another defendant was acquitted by the Criminal Court for allegedly storming a residence as the owner of the said residence decided to pardon him. The court was told that the defendant was caught red handed by the owner of the house who brought him to the police station which decided to refer the case to the court. The court accepted the plaintiff's pardon and released the defendant.

3 acquitted of assault

THE criminal court released three men from the charge of sexually assaulting a teenager after he asked them for a lift in their car.

The court reached its decision after the three convicts denied the charges. The court saw the statement made by the victim had some contradictions in addition to the fact that the incident had taken place at night. The teenager could not identify the convicts faces.

The boy said while leaving a wedding party in the evening, he stopped a vehicle on the road and asked the driver to give him a ride home. He added that the three convicts tried to sexually assault him but, he was able to escape to the police station and report the case.

Municipality to help preserve historical buildings

KUWAIT MUNICIPALITY had prepared a study on the preservation of historical buildings in Kuwait and the first volume has been finalised recently, a local daily reported.

It added that the study which had been conducted by a specialised technical team had carried out a field survey on historical buildings in Kuwait City and were classified as follows: private buildings, buildings affiliated to the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, buildings affiliated to the state domains department, buildings affiliated to the Ministries of Interior, Education, Public Health and Water and Electricity.

The study showed that out of 122 buildings over 12 buildings were previously listed, while another 24 buildings affiliated to the state domains department were not,

72 could be considered as dilapidated. Meanwhile, the study criticised the absence of the laws and legislations to preserve historical buildings.

The second part of the study which is currently under way will cover the study of the buildings which had not been covered in the first part in addition to the verification, analysis and documentation of historical buildings.

Meanwhile, the study has called for the review of procedures concerning historical building situated in Sharq and Murqah areas in addition to the reviewing of procedures pertaining to historical buildings affiliated to the state.

Apart from the above, the study has called for revising plans which had been set up for re-organising and developing Kuwait City in addition to suspending temporarily construction works in the old

market of Kuwait City. The study has suggested that some criteria should be set up to deal with historical buildings, adding that these criteria should be set in the light of international ones followed in this connection.

Any demolition in the country should be carried out in consultation with the design division at the organisation department of Kuwait Municipality, the study added.

On the other hand, the study has suggested the allocation of a special budget whose proceeds should be devoted exclusively to renovating historical buildings.

The study also said that the renovation department at Kuwait Municipality will urge people, who own the land that the historical buildings are located to carry out the necessary renovation in accordance with the prescribed specifications

which are set up by the Architectural Design Department of Kuwait Municipality, provided that no exorbitant financial burdens will be borne by these landlords.

It added that the Municipality will address government authorities to take the necessary action aimed at preserving historical buildings.

The daily also reported that the Ministry of Public Works in co-ordination with Kuwait Municipality has started implementing a new programme to renovate the old markets in the capital.

It added that this project aims at preserving the historical landmarks of such markets.

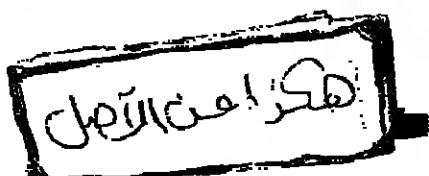
It also added that the renovation process at the Amir Market started in 1988 and is expected to be accomplished during the instant year.

Five summer classes opened

HEADMASTER of Sabah Al Salem Secondary School Mohammed Al Saadi has said that the Ministry of Education opened summer classes at five secondary schools during this summer. He added that such classes were opened for students requiring additional number of courses for graduation during the summer academic term. He stated that summer classes aimed at shortening the graduation

period for students interested in obtaining their secondary certificates in three years instead of four.

Saadi stated that three of the schools are for boys and two for girls. He pointed out that the number of students who registered reached 1000. Schools will open during Thursdays to cut short time required for graduation.



New US embassy inaugurated in Bahrain

\$19 million fortress

MANAMA, July 4, (AP): The American community in Bahrain today highlighted its July 4 celebrations by inaugurating a \$19 million, fortress-like embassy compound.

Ambassador Charles Hostler escorted the Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, to a brief ceremony during which the Arab leader cut a ribbon and offered congratulations to the Americans on the occasion.

Five-year-old American Joshua-Barney Burgess of Merritt Island, Florida, presented the Amir with the scissors to cut the ribbon, while the community applauded.

The Sheikh, in a sand-colour cloak and gold-rimmed headgear, inspected the building

before proposing a toast "to the government and the people of the United States of America."

The new structure complies with new security and fortification requirements mandated by Congress.

The State Department's billion-dollar programme for embassy security upgrades has been in effect since the 1983 bombing of the US embassy in Kuwait.

Donated

The embassy's information officer John Burgess said "the prime reason for the new facility is because the diplomatic staff outgrew the old one. The embassy expansion is a result of the broadening relations between the US and Bahrain."

The 125 staff members, 40 of them Americans, will be moved to the new compound sometime in the autumn.

The United States began diplomatic relations with Bahrain in 1971, when the island state won its independence from Britain. In 1974 the first US embassy was established. It was moved a year later to its present site, which is owned by the Prime Minister, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa.

Bahrain's government donated the land upon which the new structure is built.

The US Roma Design Co. completed the basic design in 1981, before Congress' fortification plan.

One American bystander at the ceremony commented that

the three-storey gray cement, heavily fortified structure resembles a mausoleum. Another said it looked like a fortress. Iron gratings cover the tiny windows which overlook a peaceful bay area of Manama.

Security regulations state that the wall surrounding the embassy must be setback at least 100 feet (30 metres) from the street.

"The State Department is very concerned about terrorism in this part of the world," said Burgess. "Things are very relaxed at the moment, but it doesn't take much to create an alert situation."

Bahrain acted as a key location for US navy forces during the eight-year Iran-Iraq war, halted in August 1988.

In an effort to avoid circumstances such as those surrounding the construction of the US embassy in Moscow where the building was laced with bugs, the State Department was taken extensive precautions.

Supervision of all materials doing into the construction, including cement, is done by a special team of security-conscious personnel.

Shipments of all items going inside the embassy were closely guarded on a 24-hour basis, embassy sources reported.

The seafront US embassy in Kuwait has been deemed a ripe target for terrorist attacks. The State Department is considering spending \$32 million to acquire land for an attack-proof compound in Kuwait.

Senegal prepares to take over as next OIC chairman

Diouf lauds Kuwaiti aid

KUWAIT, July 4, (Kuna): Senegalese President Abdou Diouf has paid tribute to Kuwait for continuous economic aid to his country and said Senegal is now well-prepared to take over from Kuwait as the next chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Diouf, in an interview with Kuwait television screened last night, described relations between his country and Kuwait as an "excellent" model to be copied in co-operation between Arab and African nations.

He said co-operation between the two sides dates back to 1972

when he and His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed were then prime ministers.

Ties between the two countries have since strengthened continuously, said Diouf who was interviewed in Dakar on Monday.

The Senegalese President was particularly thankful for the aid Kuwait offered Senegal to help that African nation prepare for hosting the next OIC summit conference next year.

Diouf said his country has completed "material" preparations for the OIC summit but he hoped that Senegal and other

Muslim countries would be equally mentally prepared for the gathering which he said will convene at a "critical" phase of history.

He heaped praise on His Highness the Amir of Kuwait describing him as "a great statesman" and said the current OIC chairman, has offered the organisation far-sighted and prudent stewardship.

Diouf said it would be a formidable task for him to take over from His Highness the Amir as OIC chairman and to try to achieve what he had accomplished.



A road paver—dust and heat.

Atrocious heat

Merciless weather worsens plight of outdoor labourer

Nowhere are the conditions more atrocious than in the outdoor labourer's world. Complaints are commonplace as to the "atrocious heat." Still in this plethora of complaints against the weather some "wider counsel" has prevailed in the sense that they have been querying as to plight of the worker who is compelled to work for his living outdoors under merciless weather conditions—sans air-conditioning.

Fawzi Mohammed, a vendor who sells icecream from a moving van outdoors is a typical example of those who carelessly brave the inclement weather conditions of Kuwait. He said that one of his relatives in Kuwait helped him find a job in a local company specialising in dairy products.

The company brought him to Kuwait on a work permit, provided him with a bicycle with a refrigerated container from which he "hawked" the company's products. He said that he had to accept this profession as he had been sponsored by the company and has been working in the same field for the past three years.

He described his job as "simplest routine." He said that he has to keep moving with his bicycle from one place to another in Kuwait—particularly those places characterised by higher population density. He indicated that most customers are those who are exhausted due to the heat of the sun. He said that ice cream is not only a good thirst quencher and body cooler, but is also a solid form of nourishment during summer.

He said he looks optimistically at his job and cannot complain of the heat and the humidity as these two factors combined are the essence in the sales turnover of his company's products. Thus, he added: "The more the heat turns up, the more my cash register rings."

Demands

The strong summer sun, humidity and periodic dust storms collectively cause fatigue at the end of a day Fawzi said and commented that he cannot attend any social activities as he needs to rest.

Fawzi's case is not isolated, though the professions differ such as

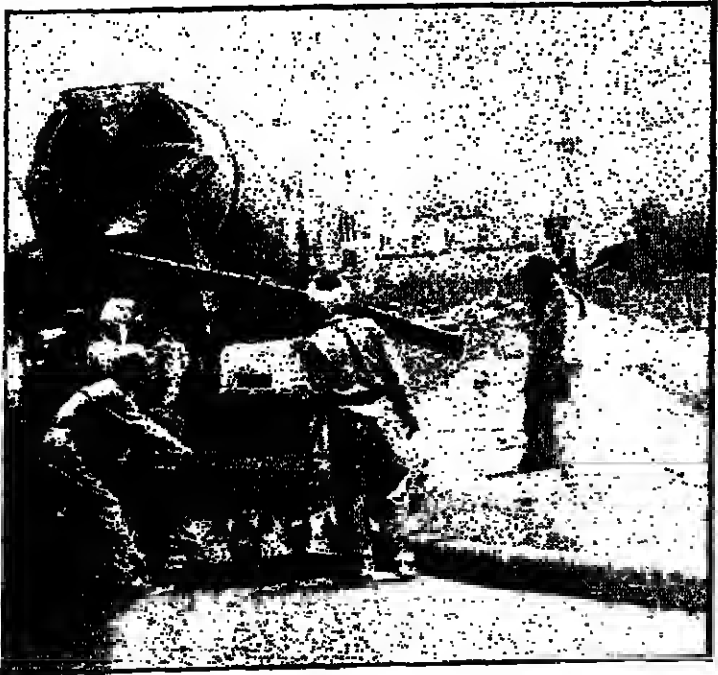
construction, excavations and maintenance, all these workers face the same problem—the unpredictable and demanding weather conditions in Kuwait.

Abdul Fatah, a maintenance labourer said that he specialises in the maintenance of water pipes and has been working at this profession for seven months. He said that it is quite a "trying and tiring experience" to work outdoors when the temperatures are over 50°C and they often are.

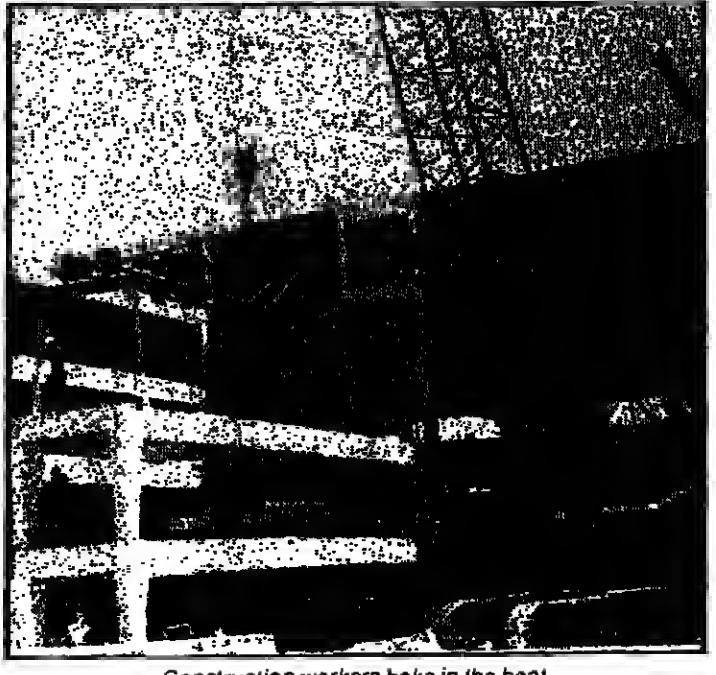
Issa Aboud, a 24-year old construction worker indicated that working in the construction profession in Kuwait is really very hard work. With zooming temperatures in Kuwait, construction workers are often prone to "dehydration, loss of appetite and quite often suffer from sunstroke. He said that their counterparts in Europe do not have to cope up with these extraordinary weather conditions. Further, he said that construction work in advanced countries resort of using innovative technology and minimising the need for manual labour. Additionally, workers in foreign countries are given all forms of social security, insurance, medical benefits, overtime and bonuses, he said. Personally, he said that after having worked in this field for several years, he suffers from permanent migraines.

Redha Anbar, a 35-year old car washer said that he had inherited this profession from his father just before he died. He indicated that depending on weather conditions sometimes he washed over 30 vehicles each day and receives between KID.750 to KID1 for each vehicle. Though it is a simple profession, he said he finds it quite rewarding without any mental stress or any other forms of obligations.

Meanwhile, Dr Nabeel Najem, a skin specialist said that the rays of the sun are essential to human bodies to a certain limit. However, long exposure to the rays of the sun can cause many health problems. He indicated that body sweat is very important to maintain body temperature and in a sense it works as an air-conditioning unit. He advised outdoor workers to take a lot of liquids and salts and recommended that they wear long robes or clothes to protect them from harmful sun's rays which can cause skin cancer over long exposures.



Back-breaking job for pavers.



Construction workers baka in the heat.

Improved slaughtering services for Eid Al Adha

By Fawzi Al Tamimi

UNLIKE the previous years, the Sabah Al Salem District Slaughterhouse slew a total of 300 sacrificial sheep on the first day of Eid, due to the large number of people using its improved slaughtering services.

Seyyassah toured the Slaughterhouse and interviewed a number of officials to learn of the new services introduced and improvements made to optimise performance level.

Municipality official and gen-

eral supervisor of the centre Salem Saad Al Farhan said that workers at the centre had devised a new system for the slaughtering of incoming sacrificial sheep, which is based on the numbering of live sheep with cards distributed to the clients in proper sequence, and the client will be able to collect the meat once he is called by microphone according to his turn.

He said this new system yielded positive results and

facilitated work progress at the centre, which will most probably be implemented next year, adding that the fees collected by the centre per head remained the same as the years before; KID 3.500.

Dr Mufeed Crome, a vet, said that his task at the centre was to check the meat for infections and diseases. He lauded the highly-organised operation at the centre and pointed out that this resulted in great co-operation extended

by clients to centre workers.

He said that the sheep were perfectly healthy, except for minor infections such as liver worms, lung inflammations and chest disorders, which were commonly known and present at many slaughter houses.

Hameed Ramadan Jasem, a meat caterer at the Central Slaughterhouse and slaughtering in charge at the centre, said that the municipality appointed the caterers to operate in three

areas, and that the quantity of sheep so far brought to the centre reflects the commendable level of operation at the centre and popularity with people.

A Kuwaiti client expressed high appreciation for the advanced level of services at the centre, with specific reference to the noticeable hygiene at the centre, which coupled with the good and well-organised services rendered the centre's operation highly successful.

Resident reports tremor in Abu Halifa

By Diana Abou Halder and Fathima Ahmed Arab Times staff

A RESIDENT of Abu Halifa reported that a mild tremor shook the area at 9.16 am yesterday morning. The first tremor was followed by milder shocks between 10.30 am and 11 am, he said.

He said residents of the area also experienced a tremor on June 21, when a devastating earthquake killed at least 40,000 people in Iran.

On June 23/24, tremors shook the Umm Al Khadir area, north of Kuwait City, according to an Arabic newspaper report.

Abu Halifa residents reported the tremor to the weather bureau, and were told that Kuwait does not lie on the earthquake fault but close to it.

The resident said his son first felt the vibration, which was followed by a "rocking" sensation. "I was ironing, and felt the iron moving and immediately unplugged it," he said. His wife, who was in the kitchen, also felt the movement.

He said other residents of the building "don't seem concerned and are not worried about such tremors."

The weather bureau does not have any seismographic equipment to monitor earthquakes or tremors. The Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research has an Earth Sciences Department and conducted a study for establishing a seismographic centre in Kuwait more than five years ago. KISR spokesmen could not be reached yesterday due to the Eid holidays.

The Kuwait University also has a geology department. It is not known whether they have done any studies on the issue. Geologists could not be contacted due to the vacation.

"This is very unfortunate, and something must be done about it," said the resident.

Yemeni arrives on bicycle

THE Yemeni traveller Abdullah Al Masawi who arrived in Kuwait recently said that his overland trip on his bicycle aims at marking Yemeni unity proclaimed in May, 1990.

In an interview with a local daily, he said he started his tour from the Yemen historical capital Sana'a and then arrived in Aden. He added that he arrived in Saudi Arabia recently and from there he came to Kuwait, from where he will leave for Iraq, Jordan and Egypt and then return to Jordan and Iraq and Kuwait. He added that from Kuwait he will leave to the Yemeni borders by air and from there he will cycle to the Yemeni capital.

Masawi thanked the Kuwaiti authorities for the facilities extended to him upon his arrival at the Kuwaiti borders and also thanked the Yemeni ambassador to Kuwait for his kind patronage.

Nawaf warns against threat to Arab nation

CAIRO, July 4, (Kuna): Kuwait's Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber hailed the Arab co-operation in the military field and said such a co-operation will improve the Arab military force to be able to protect the Arab nation.

In an interview with the weekly Egyptian magazine "Al Mosawer", Sheikh Nawaf warned against the foreign threats facing the Arab nations and said, "We should be alert to confront any threat."

On the arming of the Kuwaiti armed forces, the minister said Kuwait diversified the sources of its weapons which suits its environment and armed forces.

Commenting on the exchange of expertise between the Gulf Co-operation Council states, Sheikh Nawaf stressed that the GCC states "have joint goals and it is natural that we co-operate and exchange expertise."

The Kuwaiti minister warned against the emigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied territories and recalled a statement by HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah in which he said that the Jewish emigrants arrive under the guise of human rights in spite of the fact that their arrival constitutes for the Palestinians a flood that would make them leave the country or drown.

The minister welcomed any meeting between Iraqi and Iranian officials in an effort to solve their dispute by peaceful means indicating that the war does not bring but destruction to the region and that any meeting between the two countries will have positive impact on the Islamic and Arab worlds.

56 babies born on Eid

AN official at the Maternity Hospital said that 56 babies were born at the hospital on the first day of Eid Al Adha. He added that the first baby was born to a Syrian lady at 1.15 am while the first Kuwaiti baby was born at 5.45 am. He added that 26 Kuwaiti ladies gave birth at the hospital during this period while others were of different nationalities. He added that an Egyptian lady gave birth to triplets (two males and a female) on the first day of Eid. He added that the number of females was same as that of males although female babies are more than males during normal days.

Commenting on visiting hours at the hospital, he said that it is open for visitors during holidays from 9 to 11 am beside the evening visit hours. Children are allowed to enter the hospital on Mondays and Fridays only, he added.



Army celebrates Eid

At the directives of Kuwait's Minister of Defence Shaikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Jaber and according to its annual habit, the Moral Guidance and Public Relations Department of Kuwait Army organised a celebration in honour of families of martyrs to mark the great Bahrain (Eid Al Adha) festivities.

The celebration was attended by Air Force Colonel Yagoub Al Husaini who made a speech at the ceremony in which he congratulated the audience on the occasion of Eid Al Adha. He welcomed the families of the martyrs and conveyed to them best regards of the minister of defence, the chief of staff and his deputy.

The celebration included musical and recreational performances in addition to some competitions. The celebration was also attended by a number of senior officers at Moral Guidance and Public Relations Department.

From the courts

Maid, driver get 2 years for illicit relationship

THE Criminal Court has sentenced a Filipina maid and an Indian driver to two years in jail and ordered their deportation for illicit sexual relations.

The court heard that the maid who was married in her home country, used to hang about with the Indian driver of her employer's next door neighbour, who often invited her in.

Although their employers knew that the driver drove her around on Fridays under the pretext of being a distant relation of hers, he, on the day of the incident, claimed that he wanted to drive her to a new employer's house at the request of her current one.

However, the Filipina's employer saw that the driver was sitting alone on the sofa in her house, but she could not find her maid anywhere.

Suspicious, she later discovered that the maid was hiding underneath the bed all along in the room.

On seeing the police, both admitted to the illegal relationship between them which lasted for three years.

Bullet injures Jahra resident: A resident of Jahra has been injured when a bullet pierced through his hand and led to his hospitalisation.

The man happened to be close to a wedding reception in which, contrary to insistent interior ministry warnings, gun shots were fired to mark 'the happy occasion.'

Sneak thief arrested: Rumaithiya plainclothes policemen have managed to arrest the thief of 'fancy hotels' who has been a recurrent source of disturbance.

The suspect, of Arab nationality, used to sneak into the clients' rooms during cleaning hours to pick up light and easy-to-conceal valuables.

The hotel management had on a number of occasions received reports of stolen personal items from a number of clients, especially travellers who stay in the country for a short time.

The tightening of security watch led to the arrest of the 31-year old thief?

3 arrested for public disturbance: The Dasman policemen arrested three men on the first day of Eid on charges of causing disturbances, under the influence of alcohol.

The three men, residents of the Riqqa area, entered one of the hotels in an inebriated state and started disturbing families and this led to fist fights in which also plates, knives and forks were used, leaving the intruders as well as their victims injured.

The police later intervened and picked up the accused and referred them to forensic testing to determine level of alcohol in their blood before filing a case against them.

4 years for rubber cheque: The Criminal Court has in absentia sentenced a man charged with issuing a dud cheque in the amount of KID 12,000 to four years imprisonment.

The court learnt that the bank on which the cheque was drawn told the holder that the issuer had no credit and provided him with an official letter to this effect.

Hashish trader gets 5 years: The Criminal Court sentenced a man to five years in jail, fined him KID 2,000 and ordered him deported.

The man, a shoe-mender, was being watched closely by plainclothes police men who noticed that he charged exorbitantly for the repair of certain shoes.

The police raided the shop after a friend of the defendant's entered the shop and gave him his shoe for mending after placing something inside.

The stuff was none other than a roll of hashish, which the police recovered along with a big bundle nearby from which the shoe mender took out rools of hashish for his clients.

The police also raided his residence and recovered more contraband.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WIT is the salt of conversation, not the food. — William Hazlitt, English writer (1778-1830).

Bush 18 months later Reality forces change of tune

WASHINGTON, (Reuter): The unofficial song of George Bush's 1988 presidential campaign — a catchy tune called "Don't worry, be happy" seemed until recently to sum up Bush's leadership approach.

But the hard reality of politics and the difficulties of governing the most powerful country in the Western world appear after 18 months to be forcing President George Bush to change his tune.

His retreat on "Read my lips: no new taxes," the central promise of his election campaign is a dramatic example of how he is being forced to address tough issues confronting the country, many of them economic.

"It is clear to me that both the size of the deficit problem and the need for a package that can be enacted require ... tax revenue increases," Bush said in a statement last week that marked his climbdown on the tax issue.

Deficit

The White House and the Congressional Budget Office expect the deficit to soar to about \$160 billion in the budget year beginning Oct 1, \$100 billion more than US law permits.

The figure excludes up to \$70 billion it will cost next year alone to cope with the US Savings and Loan disaster, the worst banking crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The Savings and Loan mess is a touchy issue for Bush because he was part of the administration of former president Ronald Reagan, whose emphasis on unfettered free enterprise helped create an "anything goes" climate in the Savings and Loan industry.

And the involvement of his son Neil, whom Democrats say was guilty of conflict of interest in his dealings as a director of a failed Colorado Savings and Loan Bank, brings the scandal to the president's doorstep.

But it is Bush's flip-flop on taxes that has caused an uproar among Republicans in Congress, many of whom are running for reelection this year with a "no tax increase" battle cry.

"The President has got to stick to his guns. No new taxes, period," said Republican representative Gerald Solomon, who joined 89 congressional Republicans in signing a letter of protest.

Tax

The tax decision is the most visible of a number of tough policy choices that have begun to tarnish Bush politically.

He is at odds with many working Americans because of his decision to veto a bill designed to ensure that women would not lose their jobs because of childbirth or a family illness.

And he risks alienating American blacks, an overwhelmingly pro-democratic ethnic group that currently holds him in high regard, if he vetoes a pending civil rights bill on grounds that it would impose employment quotas.

At the same time, Bush is under fire on the foreign policy front for his caution in dealing with revolutionary changes in Eastern Europe.

"It's time now to influence events in Europe," former UN ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, a nominal Bush ally, said in a recent syndicated column.

Kirkpatrick stated that congressional Democrats have been saying that the Bush administration lacks a clear, coherent strategy for helping to reshape Europe as communism disintegrates and the United States risks getting left behind as a new order emerges.

"What kind of world do we want, and what kind of international structures? Time and the opportunity to influence events are slipping away," Kirkpatrick wrote.

Bush faces another potential pitfall in the Middle East where peace hopes are in shambles following the rise of the most right-wing government in Israel's history and the suspension of a US dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Problem

Ken Duberstein, White House chief of staff in the last year of Ronald Reagan's presidency, said the problems Bush is running into with still two-and-a-half years of his presidency left, are to be expected.

"Yeah, there are tough times ahead for Bush, but what's remarkable is that his honeymoon is almost unheard of in politics or marriage," Duberstein said.

Despite his problems, Bush's popularity as measured by public opinion polls remains in the 70 per cent range, a near record high. But the polling data contain some worrisome news for the White House.

According to recent ABC News-Washington Post poll, three out of five Americans think the United States is going down a wrong track and nearly half those surveyed had serious misgivings about Bush's handling of the economy.

Ron Sabato, a University of Virginia political science professor, said Bush's popularity could erode quickly if the tough calls he is making fail to produce positive results.

"If things turn sour, a political freefall is entirely possible for him because Bush's support is much less intense than the support Ronald Reagan enjoyed," Sabato said.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1556 — France's King Henry II renews war against Hapsburgs in Italy.

1596 — Expedition under Lord Howard of Effingham and Earl of Essex sacks Cadiz and ravages Spanish coast.

1796 — British force captures island of Elba.

1811 — Venezuela becomes first South American country to declare its independence from Spain.

1812 — Britain makes peace with Russia and Sweden.

1830 — French launch invasion of Algeria and take Algiers.

1940 — Vichy government in France breaks off relations with Britain in World War II.

1943 — German offensive on Soviet front begins with battle of Kursk in World War II.

1959 — President Sukarno dissolves Indonesia's constituent assembly.

1960 — Congolese National Army mutinies.

1969 — Tom Mboya, Kenya's economic planning commissioner and likely successor to President Jomo Kenyatta, is assassinated in Nairobi.

1973 — Government of small Central African nation of Rwanda is overthrown in military coup.

1975 — Cape Verde Islands become independent after 500 years Portuguese rule.

1977 — Pakistan Army seizes power in bloodless coup that unseats Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

1987 — Six people are killed and at least 50 injured by three explosions at railway and bus stations in Lahore, Pakistan.

Khomeini spectre stalks Iran

Revolution survives eleven years on

TEHRAN, Iran, (AP): The ghost of Ayatollah Khomeini stalks the Islamic republic a year after his death and a power struggle among the imam's disciples remains unresolved.

However, the revolution Khomeini began 11 years ago survives, frustrating the doomsayers who predicted it would fall apart when he was longer there to unite the factions.

Moves by President Hashemi Rafsanjani and his "pragmatists" toward a more liberal course have been stymied by anti-Western radicals who accuse him of straying from "the path of the imam," as Khomeini was known.

Both groups claim to be Khomeini's true ideological heirs and invoke his commandments to justify their actions.

An Iranian official, speaking anonymously, said Rafsanjani sought to legitimize his more liberal policies through subtle interpretations of Khomeini's teachings.

In response, the 270-member Parliament passed a law in May that makes changing Khomeini's writings a crime. The Parliament is dominated by radical followers of Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, a former interior minister.

Radicals

The radicals include Ahmad Khomeini, the Ayatollah's only surviving son. He has made no apparent effort to claim his father's mantle and is overshadowed by Mohtashemi.

In a clear warning to Rafsanjani, Ahmad Khomeini recently told the 350,000-strong Revolutionary Guards Corps, which could hold the balance of power, "Do not deviate from the imam's path. If others do, I trust you will not let them."

During the revolution, the Revolutionary Guards swore personal allegiance to Ayatollah Khomeini.

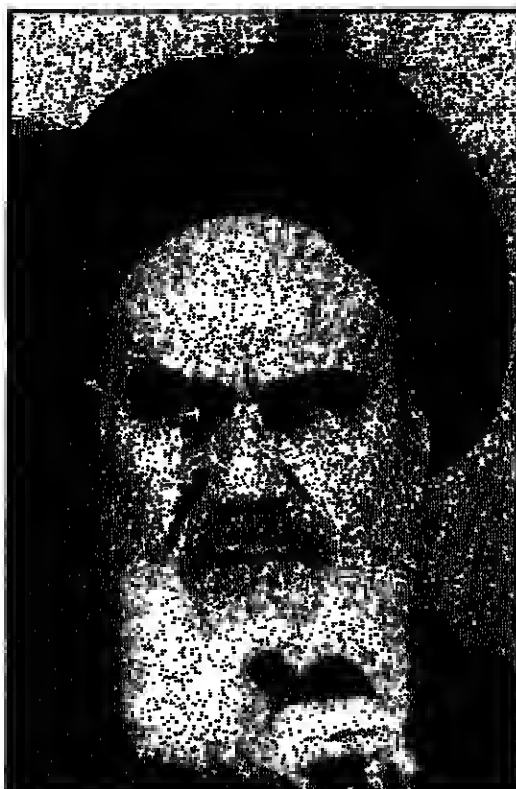
Rafsanjani, elected in July 1989 to a presidency with greater power than before, is trying to revitalize the economy after a decade of inefficient management and eight years of wars with Iraq that ended in August 1988.

His five-year reconstruction plan calls for \$27 billion of foreign investment to rebuild industry. But getting radicals to go along with such a tide of foreign money will be difficult.

When international relief aid began pouring into Iran after the country's deadliest earthquake this century struck June 21, killing an estimated 40,000 people, the radicals clashed with Rafsanjani by trying to block the aid, particularly from the United States, Britain and Saudi Arabia.

But Rafsanjani stuck to his guns and the humanitarian aid poured in, underlining indications that he is slowly gaining the upper hand.

Radicals fear Rafsanjani's policy of improving relations with the West to obtain investment and technology will lead to renewed relations with the United States, which Khomeini called the "great



Khomeini... message lives on

satan."

The president's influence is believed to have been critical to the release of two American hostages in April by pro-Iranian Shiites in Lebanon.

Mohtashemi, who has close ties to Lebanese Shiite militants, denounced the releases and 170 Members of the Parliament signed a protest demanding the government not involve itself in the hostage issue.

Isolation

Diplomats in Tehran say Rafsanjani appears determined to show the West he is moving the country away from isolation.

In an effort to create a more liberal social and political climate, he has eased restrictions Khomeini placed on Iran's 55 million people. He cannot move quickly because of radical opposition and faces growing discontent from a populace whose expectations were raised when he gained power.

There have been demonstrations against shortages, unemployment estimated at 4 million, and the high inflation. Opposition groups say the Revolutionary Guards killed several protesters and

arrested scores.

At least 21 prominent Iranian dissidents have been arrested in Iran since June 11.

All were linked to Mehdi Bazargan, the first premier of the Islamic republic and veteran leader of the Freedom Movement, the token opposition party.

They were among 90 signatories of an open letter to Rafsanjani in May that criticized the lack of human freedoms and the president's failure to improve economic conditions.

The detainees included Bazargan's son Mohandes and several former ministers in Bazargan's short-lived 1979 government, which resigned in protest to the storming of the US Embassy Nov 4 that year.

Rafsanjani has taken no public position on the arrests. Middle East Watch, a US-based human rights watchdog organization, noted that this indicated that the move against Bazargan "carries his tacit assent."

But it also noted in a July 2 statement: "There remains the possibility that the moves against the Freedom Movement ... are being initiated by the president's political opponents as a way of blocking the overtures to the West that he has set in motion."

Progress

Still, some progress has been made. Diplomats estimate inflation was trimmed from 30 per cent to 20 per cent in the past year and the government has contracts for major investment projects estimated to be worth billions of dollars.

Rafsanjani's plans depend on oil revenue. It is expected to be about 15 billion this year, but nothing is certain in the volatile oil market.

"The authorities know they have at best one or two years' grace before economic problems produce dangerous political dissatisfaction," Vahid Petrosian, an Iranian analyst based in London, wrote last month in the Middle East Economic Digest.

A waiter named Khosrow in a Tehran restaurant said, "All I want are three square meals a day for myself and my family. Someone has to rule, but I don't really care who it is so long as I have enough to provide a roof for my family."

"During the war I never complained, the enough is enough."

Mehrdad, taxi driver, said, "I think most of the people are behind Rafsanjani and they know he is trying to do something good for us."

Asked if restoring relations with the United States did not go against Khomeini's teachings, he replied, "The imam said we must strike a blow against the United States. How are we hurting the United States when we pay triple the price for American goods because we buy them through middlemen?"

"We would strike a more effective blow if we resumed ties and rebuilt our economy and industry so we become truly independent and powerful."

Menem does well in first year

BUENOS AIRES, (UPI): President Carlos Menem's first year in office has been a bag of surprises.

In his election campaign he promised a "super-payraise" and a "productive revolution."

Once in office, he stated his priorities as balancing the budget, reducing the state bureaucracy, privatizing state companies and attracting foreign and domestic investment by stabilizing the economy.

Menem the electioneer vowed to recover the Falkland Islands, which Argentina failed to capture in a 10-week war with Britain in 1982, and said, "I don't know how much blood it will cost."

Menem the president did an about face and re-established diplomatic relations with London.

Pardon

Candidate Menem vehemently denied he would pardon military officers accused of human rights crimes and rebellion.

Menem has pardoned 280 such officers.

Although Menem doesn't like to admit it in public, his free market economic policies — he has ended price and foreign currency exchange controls — have brought on a recession in Argentina.

On the opposite side, inflation has been slowed and the nation appears to be moving toward long overdue reforms, such as ending deficit spending.

But "we are not going to be able to satisfy society's expectations for a very long time," Planning Secretary Moises Ikonikoff said in an interview.

"The president said it will take three years. I personally think it will take 20 years at least."

He said Argentina is stabilizing the economy to attract investment, especially in oil and gas produc-

tion and public utilities. But even with investments, he said, it will still be several years before the population enjoys the benefits.

Ikonikoff said Menem is undoing decades of economic policies that created a sick economy dependent on subsidies, state controls, state ownership of public utilities, and high tariffs. The government contends those policies led to debt, inflation, budget deficits and industrial inefficiency.

Founder

Ironically, many of those policies were instituted by the late president Juan Domingo Peron, founder of Menem's Peronist Party.

Menem is proud of his accomplishments.

At a recent news conference he said the "super-payraise is already a fact," because "Argentina's average industrial wage is now \$300 a month compared to \$75 a month when I took office."

But whatever wage gains the average Argentine may have made seem to have evaporated with inflation. Prices at grocery stores have risen 10 per cent a month for the past three months.

"It is getting more impossible to buy anything," said Sandra Pyrit, a 25-year-old receptionist in Buenos Aires. "A salary here is enough to get by on for only 10 or 15 days a month. Everybody is depressed, but as far as my life personally, it is the same with Menem here as with Menem not here. Things are really bad."

There has been, however, an apparent end to hyperinflation, in which prices increased more than 50 per cent a month.

It was hyperinflation and the resulting food riots

that bounded ex-president Raul Alfonsin into resigning five months before his term expired.

Menem's post-inauguration pledge to sell the money-losing state telephone company, Entel, quickly also appears to have a good chance of success.

Two consortiums, one led by Citicorp and Telefonica de Espana, and the other by Bell Atlantic and Manufacturer's Hanover Trust, won bids by offering over \$5 billion in Argentine debt paper in exchange for what will now be two companies, serving the northern and southern sectors.

The sale would also mean that in one stroke of a "debt-for-equity swap," Argentina will have reduced its foreign debt of \$62 billion by \$5 billion, or 8 per cent.

If the deal goes through, the company will be in private hands next October, although it will be months, and maybe years before the average Argentine will get better service.

A respected polling organization, Mora Y Araujo, said in its latest June public opinion survey that 48 per cent of Argentines approve of Menem compared with 89 per cent when he took office.

Despite the drop, which may be partly due to a public spat between Menem and his wife Zulema, Menem is still the most popular public figure in Argentina.

"Menem knows what he is doing," said parking attendant Eduardo Balazuo, 68.

"He was elected by a great majority. I have faith that things will improve. He is doing what is necessary and this is good."

Letters to the editor

India's population

SIR: The news story "Childhood's end" in the Arab Times dated June 28 on Delhi's working children was, I feel, a rather tiresome rehashing of previous reports on India's children by the Associated Press agency.

While no one will deny that the lot of many of New Delhi's — indeed of India's children — is appalling, and whereas articles like this do, at least, keep the problem dancing before the public eye, they are generally long on statistics and notoriously short on solutions.

In the race against time to upgrade the standard of living of India's youngsters, (not forgetting much of the adult population) statistics of the right sort are needed to lay bare the crux of the problem which is, basically, that of overpopulation.

Consider, then, that the combined population of South Asia's 2 giants, India and China, is approximately 2 billion people, which means that around 40 per cent of the globe's people live in these 2 countries alone!

The population of North and Central America is around 400 million, which is less than half the population of India!

The number of children born to Indian parents exceeds 20 million per annum, which is more than the entire population of Australia! More than half of them will be born into poverty.

It would be easy to continue reeling off statistics, but the imperative of our times is action, not figures — backed by bold and imaginative planning.

A string of Indian governments has espoused radical solutions to the problem, from mass emigration to Sanjay Gandhi's experiments in coercive sterilisation, but their efforts have been brought to a frustrating standstill by intractable public opposition. And the population bomb, in

the meantime, keeps ticking ominously away ...

Dilemma

I have no quickfire solutions to the dilemma myself, and while it would be invidious to make comparisons with our Chinese neighbours, a leaf or two borrowed from their book would, perhaps, be enlightening.

If China has succeeded in dramatically slowing down its own runaway population growth, it has been through the systematic and deliberate employment of draconian measures which would surely be disapproved of elsewhere.

Time and space do not permit the documentation of its endeavours, which are well-enough known, but they serve to illustrate a burning truth — to put out a fire, one does not employ half-measures — and China's population is now well under control — something that has thwarted India's democratic idealism.

Thailand is another case in point and the experience of these 2 countries is entirely worthy of emulation in Third World countries.

The education of India's masses (a Herculean task!) will come about too late to exert effective control over the business of bounteous babies; a one-child policy must be made mandatory even if it means the usurpation of certain civil rights and liberties.

Utopia is not around the corner, as successful governments would have us believe, but decades away even if action were initiated immediately.

That the children of our vast and wonderful land should be forced to merely exist in degrading and sub-human conditions is tragic enough, but procrastinate now and allow posterity to bitterly condemn us for our vacillation is nothing short of criminal!

Let us hope, before India tears apart at the seams with its intolerable human burden as it rockets towards the 21st century, that wisdom will dawn upon our political pundits.

Heartbreakingly, for the vast majority of our

children, it may arrive too slowly, too late.

Kevin D'Souza,
Safat.

Discounted air fare

SIR: We, the members of the Indian community in Kuwait, are deeply distressed by the recent decision of the Air-India management here, to suspend the sale of discounted air tickets to various destinations in India. Our resentment is due to the following reasons.

This increase is definitely a calculated exploitation of an Indian passenger from this area. AI charges a passenger in the Gulf sector Rs.3 and pause 48 per km, while it charges a passenger from European sector Rs.1 and pause 47. A Trivandrum bound passenger has got to pay KD260 for his four hours journey from here while a New York bound AI passenger has to pay only KD258 for his more than 12 hours journey with all comforts. The paying for tickets has ceased to become an annual discomfort and has attained the dimensions of massive financial burden.

A large majority of the Indian community here, belong to low income group, not earning more than 100 dinars per month. It is ridiculous, the way Air India has tried to cash in on the average Indians dream of making the homeward trips. Although we always supported AI, it always showed apathy towards Indians.

P. Rajendran,
Kuwait.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Nato US leadership undergoes trial

WASHINGTON, (Reuter): The Nato summit, called by President George Bush for this week in London, will be an important test of continued US leadership in an alliance fighting for its existence.

Is Washington still the first among equals in the 16-member Western forum that has kept the peace for 40 years or has it been eclipsed by West Germany, or by Europe as a whole?

Does this question even matter as long as Nato succeeds in defining for itself a more political role and in building a new stable post-war Europe devoid of past military threats?

Powerful

"If you ask whether the United States is still the most powerful, single most important member of the alliance — unquestionably" the answer is yes, said Gregory Flynn of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

"Is the United States able today or even willing to pursue a definition of Western interests made as much in Washington as it used to be? No."

"Is that the essence of leadership in all cases? That's absurd," he added.

Some American analysts, including Flynn, give Bush and Secretary of State James Baker high marks for a non-exploitative response to communism's decline in Europe and for letting West Germany take the lead on German unification after last November's fall of the Berlin Wall.

The two men, savvy politicians, encouraged the rise of democratic processes without gloating or exacerbating tensions, either in the Soviet Union or in Eastern Europe, these analysts say.

Boost

Bush used last month's Washington summit to boost Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the catalyst for most of Europe's recent revolutionary change, who is struggling at home to retain power.

Despite this, the signs of a less flamboyant, less dominant US role in Nato are evident.

Bonn and France have been the vanguard advocating direct Western aid to support the reform efforts of Gorbachev and newly democratic East European governments.

So compelling a public issue have they made this that Bush had little choice but to agree to discuss it at the economic summit he will host in Houston, Texas, beginning July 9.

Bonn and other allies have also pushed Washington into accepting an expanded role for the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), encouraged other initiatives to make Moscow feel secure with a united Germany's membership in Nato and helped ensure early negotiations on short range nuclear forces with the Soviets.

Baker put a package of security assurances for the Soviets together that Nato endorsed and he initiated public debate on a Nato-Warsaw Pact non-aggression accord likely to be pursued by the Western alliance in London.

Reluctantly

But the United States only reluctantly accepted a broadened CSCE mandate, and then much narrower than Europeans wanted.

Even analysts who are generally satisfied with Washington's handling of revolutionary change in Europe feel it lost ground by not embracing a new role for CSCE more enthusiastically.

Moscow is insistent on a more substantive CSCE because it is the only European security structure to which it belongs.

On this, as on many other issues, "there's no doubt that Bonn is in the driver's seat at this point (but) I wouldn't attribute it to an abdication of American leadership," said Michael Mandelbaum of the Council on Foreign Relations.

"The Bush administration is not saturated with vision (and) the initiative passes to people with vision and the Germans" have it, he added.

More supportive of the US approach is Flynn, who said Bush made a conscious decision to let the Europeans, especially the Germans, play the lead at this crucial time.

"They have done so because they believe that being out ahead of the Europeans at a time when Europe has to determine its own future would be foolhardy," he said.

That may be so. But the politician in the White House also knows the importance of ultimately seizing the spotlight, the agenda and the credit.

Bush is apparently ready to unveil at the London summit a package of changes that could radically reshape Nato into the post-cold war era.

These are said to include adoption of the politically attractive policy of making nuclear arms "weapons of last resort" and withdrawing all nuclear artillery from Europe.

QUOTE ME

"My main memory is the first time I stepped here in 1979 for a junior match. I was so amazed and so scared. I was afraid to even walk on the grass that I'm going to damage it and somebody is going to say 'You cannot do this, you cannot do this.' I still remember that. Then I told myself 'don't be afraid.' It was, like, so special." — Hana Mandlikova remembering her first Wimbledon appearance.

"Perhaps I hadn't spent enough time on grass, I just don't feel comfortable on it. Now I'm just going to go home and pretend I wasn't here." — Gomez after being bundled out of the Wimbledon tennis tourney.

"If any side deserved a win it was us. The players did their very best but it was very hot. We played a good match but this time luck was not with us at the decisive moments. But football is like that. We created fewer chances than usual but we couldn't convert them." — Spanish coach Luis Suarez.

"If Nepal is made a secular country it will then open the door to communal violence and the country will stand to lose its cultural identity." — Schoolteacher Shaligram Dahal.

"Maybe that's how she feels best. Maybe it releases her or lets her hit the ball a little better. I wasn't distracted by them when I played her last time. I was too busy concentrating on getting the ball back." — Jennifer Capriati on

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Dollar ends down in Europe

LONDON, July 4, (Agencies): The dollar ended weaker to slack European trading today as speculation mounted that US interest rates were headed lower. Gold firmed to its highest for one month and stock markets were mixed, ending lower in London but up in Frankfurt.

Activity in the foreign exchange was subdued by the fourth of July Independence Day holiday in the United States.

Macy currency and stock dealers in London and Frankfurt were also said to be leaving early to watch a televised World Cup semifinal soccer match between England and West Germany.

"We have to get home to do something really important," said one Frankfurt currency dealer.

A statement by President George Bush yesterday that bringing interest rates down worldwide remained a constant goal kept up the pressure on the dollar.

It closed in London at 1.6465 German marks and 149.70 Japanese yen after ending yesterday at 1.6330 and 151.48.

The pound sterling was supported by high British interest rates and a growing belief that it will soon join the European Monetary System's exchange rate mechanism which limits the amount that member currencies can fluctuate against each other.

The pound finished at \$1.7870 after 1.7750.

London share prices were depressed by an almost constant stream of analysts' corporate profit downgradings over the past few days, dealers said.

"Buyers who helped take the market higher in the second quarter (of 1989) are taking a breather and seem happy to sit back and watch the market drift lower," one dealer said.

The US dollar plunged against the Japanese yen and other major currencies in Tokyo today, while the Tokyo Stock Exchange's key index inched up.

The dollar closed at 150.30 yen, down 1.38 yen from yesterday's 151.68 yen finish. It opened at 150.25 yen and ranged between 149.90 yen and 150.65 yen.

The US currency had edged up 0.28 yen yesterday, but its fall since last Thursday now totals 4.12 yen.

Dealers said the dollar's low opening in Tokyo today followed its decline in overseas markets.

"In addition to the yen, the dollar was lower against almost all the other major currencies," said Minoru Takeuchi, a dealer with Chemical Bank of Tokyo.

There was no specific economic factor behind the dollar's fall, he added.

"Today's dollar-selling was technical adjustments, trying to push it below the 150-yen level," she said.

Gold bullion rose one dollar to close in London at its highest for a month at \$322.50 an ounce.

Dealers said there were signs of renewed confidence in the metal following a recent rally from a four-year low in mid-June.

At the start of foreign exchange trading in Switzerland today, one Kuwaiti dinar was trading at 4.7559 Swiss francs, same as the closing rate yesterday, the Swiss-Kuwait Bank reported.

Against the dinar, the German mark opened at 5.5463 (\$5.6367), the pound sterling 1.9176 (1.9223), Japanese yen 512.9941 (\$16.5600), while the US dollar remained unchanged at 3.4154.

In New York, stocks on Wall Street rose on selected buying yesterday while bond prices were slightly higher. The dollar was little changed.

Trading in all three markets was quiet prior to the American Independence Day holiday today.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrial average closed up 12.37 points at 2,911.63.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng blue chip index rose on optimistic sentiment which overpowered profit-taking and consolidation in mid-morning. It closed up 6.94 at 3,363.49.

In Singapore, share prices were broadly weaker in lackluster trading, but the Straits Times industrial index of blue chips ended 1.90 higher at 1,528.25.

In Bombay, closed for Muslim holiday, trading resumes on Thursday. Yesterday the exchange index closed at a new high of 842.88.

Iraq leads bid to cut oil output

US oil companies boost operations

NICOSIA, July 4, (Agencies): Iraq, claiming losses of billions of dollars from falling oil prices, has stepped up pressure to cut output of the 13-nation Opec, the authoritative Middle East Economic Survey indicated.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries pumps more than a third of the world's crude oil and tries to support world prices by limiting its output.

The Mee's newsletter in its current edition on Monday said Baghdad was trying to pressure the UAE with a hard-hitting public and private campaign.

The campaign is evidently designed to pressure the UAE into cutting production to quota levels in order to help strengthen sagging crude oil prices, which are now languishing between \$4 and \$5 per barrel below the target minimum of \$18 per barrel, Mee's said.

Fuel tax likely to get consideration

Bid to reduce global warming

WASHINGTON, July 4, (Reuters): A new tax on coal, oil and natural gas use aimed at reducing global warming is likely to get serious consideration at budget talks under way between Congress and the White House, Congressional sources said yesterday.

The proposal, by representative Fortney Stark, a California Democrat, would eventually tax carbon emissions at \$25 per ton, encouraging users to switch to cleaner fuels to minimise the greenhouse effect.

"There is one solution to achieving the twin goals of reducing global warming and the budget deficit," Stark said recently. "It is market-oriented and it works. The solution is a carbon tax."

The tax, to be phased in over five years, would take its biggest bite from coal — which produces the most carbon dioxide — and its smallest from natural gas.

The tax would produce \$60 billion over five years, a significant portion of the \$400 billion to \$600 billion deficit reduction negotiators would like to achieve.

Non-fossil fuels such as solar, hydro-electric, wind, geothermal and nuclear, would escape the tax entirely because they produce no carbon dioxide.

The Stark proposal had not, until recently, been taken seriously by the industry because it has powerful enemies. But while it might ordinarily languish, this year is different.

US President George Bush's statement last week that tax revenues must be increased to help solve the federal budget deficit makes new energy taxes a serious possibility.

Urgent messages to this effect from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein were delivered to the heads of state of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE and Qatar last week by Saadoun Hamadi, Iraq's deputy prime minister in charge of economic affairs, the newsletter indicated.

Hamadi described the loss of revenue from the current oil-price deterioration as "intolerable for Iraq."

"We are sticking to our production quota of 3.14 million barrels per day but others do not," Hamadi is quoted as saying by Mee's. "Iraq stands to lose \$1 billion a year in oil revenues for each decline in price of \$1 per barrel."

"Iraq cannot tolerate this situation," he said. "Our financial and economic situation motivates us to speak loudly."

Hamadi also made it clear that his country would not be satisfied with merely restoring the \$18 a barrel target price average for seven Opec crude, but wanted a minimum price of \$25 a barrel.

He said this price would be acceptable to oil buyers and could be achieved by Opec through the solidarity in production restraint.

Mee's also said Iraqi Oil Minister Essam Abdul Rahim Chalabi has outlined what looks like an Iraqi blueprint for resolving the production-price problem at the upcoming meeting of all Opec oil ministers in Geneva on July 25.

Many US oil companies are expanding exploration and development and increasing their overseas energy reserves, according to an annual survey.

Such exploration and development exceeded spending on domestic exploration for the first time in the Arthur Andersen oil and gas reserve disclosures survey released yesterday. The accounting firm has been reviewing financial documents of 263 public oil companies annually for the past 11 years.

Norway's North Sea oil production recovered to 40 per cent of normal output today despite wildcat strikes by offshore workers infuriated by government back-to-work orders.

A spokesman for Phillips Petroleum said two workers on an offshore platform in the Ekofisk field had been dismissed for preventing a helicopter carrying non-strikers from landing.

Similar incidents were reported on other platforms, but they did not appear to have led to dismissals.

Norway's centre-right government invoked special powers on Monday to halt a legal two-day strike by the main offshore workers' union which virtually shut down production.

British Railways loses £26 million

LONDON, July 4, (UPI): Britain's Railways last year made an operating loss of £26 million (\$46.28 million), the first time the state-owned concern has been in the red for five years, British Rail officials announced today.

BR said the loss was not surprising, despite a profit of a £100 million (\$178 million) last year and blamed it on a downturn in the British economy and last summer's rail strikes, which cost BR £83 million (\$147.7 million) in lost revenue.

"Let's hope we don't have a repetition of the strikes — that will put £3 million back into business, which should in fact take us back into the black," said BR chairman Sir Robert Reid today.

"And as far as our continuing productivity drive and marketing are concerned, that should again underpin our recovery," he added.

The £26 million (\$46.28 million) loss has forced BR to postpone until the fall publication of its new three year plan, which was due for publication later this month.

The British government is expected also to postpone its plans to privatize BR. Analysts said the losses would make

privatization a more distant objective for the ruling Conservative Party.

It is plans to privatize BR, the government hopes to slash subsidies to BR in particular to the beleaguered network southeast region which last year clocked up losses of £138 million (\$245.6 million) despite higher fares.

Transport lobby groups have often criticised the government for its poor support for BR compared to the rest of Europe and say BR could not manage without the present level of subsidy.

But Reid said he did not believe the government was asking too much of BR.

"What they've asked in the past, BR has achieved firmly, in comparison with our counterparts in Europe — the Italian railways get £4 billion (\$7.1 billion); the German railways get £3 billion (\$5.3 billion); the French get £3 billion (\$5.3 billion). We get five hundred million (\$890 million). We give the income taxpayer a good deal."

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US has unofficial recession

Millions of Americans face unemployment

PHOENIX, Arizona, July 4, (AP): Richard Lyon and his son tried to make a living with a two-truck shipping company. But bills outran them, the business shut down, and Lyon drove straight into bankruptcy court.

"We're just one of the statistics now," Lyon shrugged.

RA Ballard went from building 78 homes a year here in 1986 to six this year declared insolvent and seized by federal regulators. He's found it difficult to borrow more money.

west's "suohelt," local economies have slipped dramatically. In some industries, most notably housing, a recession is clearly under way, many economists say.

Unemployment

For millions of Americans, from clerks in debt-laden retail stores to defence industry machinists facing unemployment, and truckers and builders like Lyon and Ballard, the times feel like a recession — an unofficial recession.

"Official proclamations aside, I think for certain sectors and certain states, it is a recession," said Robert Brusca, chief financial economist at Nikko Securities Co International in New York.

"This is not a typical business cycle recession, but the regional problems may finally drag down the rest of the country," said Albert Sindlinger, a forecaster whose company tracks "household liquidity" as a measure of the economy's health.

Sindlinger's survey predicted the last two recessions when it found more than 50 per cent of US households responded negatively to at least one of his key questions dealing with household income, jobs and business conditions.

That happened again for the first time in January.

"Historically, every time that we've had the nation with over 50 per cent of the population in recession, that was the month that the government later issued a declaration saying that 'was when the recession started,'" Sindlinger said.

Consider:

■ The Labour Department reported on job growth in the private sector during March, April and May.

■ An official forecasting gauge known as the index of leading economic indicators has remained sluggish this year. The gross national product, the broadest official measure of economic activity, grew at an annual rate of just 1.3 per cent in the first quarter — the lowest since the 1982 recession.

■ New home sales have fallen for six months, also to the lowest level since the recession year 1982. The auto industry is stalled and defence contractors are laying off thousands.

■ Bankruptcies are growing. They range from the huge corporate variety resulting from junk-bond debt like that of federated department stores, to the personal variety resulting from unemployment or too many bills.

■ The latest report on regional economies by the Federal Reserve, the nation's central bank, said most are weak or growing only slowly.

Still, the Fed's periodic assessment released late last month found healthy economies in the northern Midwest and the Pacific coast states.

Inflation

Moreover, economists say key ingredients are missing to lay the groundwork for a recession. The most notably the high inflation that causes interest rates to jump sharply and bring businesses to a halt. They also say the economy today is far more diversified than in the past.

"If the economy was still as heavily dependent on housing and autos as it was in the '60s and '70s, then I'd say we're in a recession. But it's not," said Prudential-Bache Securities Inc. economist Edward Yardeni, who coined the term "rolling recession" to describe the regional downturns that have swept across the country in recent years.

"I would still characterise it as a rolling recession," Yardeni said. "If you want to find recession, you can find it, but it's not economy-wide."

Bankruptcy

By the looks of the rows of people pouring over stacks of bankruptcy documents, you might say the local economy was in a recession.

But like the rest of the nation, Arizona's economy is growing sluggishly. A few office buildings still are under construction in Phoenix. State unemployment is running around 5.3 per cent, about the national average.

"It is a very soft economy here," said Ron Simon, economist with the Arizona Department of Economic Security. "Within Arizona you could say that construction and related industries are in a recession, but overall, we are still growing as a state, so we are not in a recession as a state, but it's fragile."

Like much of the rest of the country, Arizona faces what some economists are calling a credit crunch, or a shortage of loan money. That not only has cramped housing, but also other small businesses.

Super Corp, a chain of 130 drug stores to four states, sought bankruptcy protection after government regulators who seized the firm's main lender were unwilling to renegotiate debt. Chicken-chain El Pollo Asado was forced to liquidate after regulators cut off financing.

"They made a bad situation a whole lot worse," said Ron Paradise, former president of El Pollo Asado. "All we needed was another 30 days to put a reorganisation plan in place."

Seven of Arizona's 10 Savings and Loans are controlled by the federal government, which must sell or dispose of \$15 billion worth of assets in the state. A survey by the accounting firm Kenneth Leventhal and Company found the worst shortage of credit in Arizona in nearly two decades.

"We're virtually redefined in terms of new financing," said former Phoenix mayor Terry Goddard, now a gubernatorial candidate.

But across the country in Washington, talk of a credit crunch is dismissed by Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve chairman and the most powerful banker in the country.

Nonetheless, Greenspan acknowledged to Congress last month, some lenders have tightened their practices, and "this cautious stance in the granting of credit could cumulate to threaten the economic expansion."

Whatever it's called, the declining availability of credit doesn't seem to have drastically affected consumer spending, at least not yet. Consumers account for much of the nation's economic activity.

US in midst of unsurpassed prosperity

Definition debated

THE official definition of a recession was established by the National Bureau of Economic Research, a forecasting concern in Cambridge, Mass. That has been associated with presidential advisers Arthur Burns and Martin Feldstein and other influential economists.

It measures recessions through the gross national product, the total value at retail prices of all goods and services produced by the economy in a given time period, adjusted for inflation. The GNP, compiled quarterly by the commerce department, is considered the broadest measure of economic health.

Generally speaking, there must be at least two consecutive quarters of declines in GNP for the government to acknowledge a recession has occurred. That hasn't happened since the 1981-82 recession.

The most recent GNP figure was issued June 21, when the commerce department said growth in the first quarter of this year totalled 1.9 per cent of an annual basis, compared with 1.1 per cent in the final three months of 1989. (AP)

"I have essentially closed my company down," said Ballard, a director of the National Association of Home Builders. "I thought it was only happening to me. I thought it was isolated to Texas, Arizona and some other problem areas. But it's not. It's happening everywhere."

A recession? Not based on officially sanctioned economic statistics. They show the US economy continues to eke out slow growth, prolonging the longest peacetime expansion in history.

But in some regions, such as the northeast and parts of the south-

Data mills in trouble

WASHINGTON, June 4, (AP): The government's number mills are in trouble. At a time when the US economy has never been more complex, federal statisticians are losing the ability to track the changes.

The official statistics report that the nation is currently in the midst of a period of unsurpassed prosperity — a peace time record of 71-2 years without a recession.

But private economists say many of the statistics spewed by the government each month that purport to track the economy are seriously flawed.

Some are so suspect, that analysts ignore them in preparing forecasts rather than face embarrassment when the government totally revised its original report.

"History is being rewritten on a monthly basis," said Allen Sinai, chief economist of the Boston Co. "It makes it very hard for private sector analysts and public policy makers to come to correct conclusions."

Take the chagrin caused last year with the monthly report on retail sales. The government first reported retail sales fell by 0.1 per cent in May 1989 only to discover later that the survey had overlooked \$1.4 billion in sales.

Thus, a small decline turned into a sizeable 0.8 per cent increase.

But the problem didn't stop there. The initial erroneous report was picked up in the government's broadest measure of economic activity — the gross national product — which originally showed an anaemic 1.7 per cent growth rate during the spring.

After the error in retail sales was caught, the GNP report was revised to show the economy growing at a much more respectable 2.5 per cent. However, the correction came too late to stop policy makers at the federal reserve from acting to cut interest rates for fear the economy was headed into recession.

A number of economists believe that the federal reserve has been forced to keep interest rates higher this year because of that mistaken easing in credit last year.

Bad data triggers more than bad government policy. Millions of dollars can be lost in seconds on Wall Street based on investors' jittery response to the latest report, even though bad news one month may be revised to look significantly better a month later.

The consumer price index affects the pocket-book of virtually every American in a different way. The CPI, the government's most closely watched measure of inflation, is used to adjust the monthly payments of 38 million people who receive social security — the government's pension programme for the elderly and disabled — 20 million recipients of food stamps, 3.5 million federal retirees and at least 8.5 million workers covered by collective bargaining contracts that link wage increases to CPI increases.

Even the amount of taxes we pay is affected because the CPI is used each year to adjust rates to prevent inflation — induced tax increases known as "bracket-crawl."

In studying government data, everyone from the

The National Association of Business Economists still predicts the economy will skirt a recession through 1991. Economist Robert Eggert, whose firm compiles the Blue Chip consensus forecasting report, agrees.

"I feel very strongly that we will not have a recession as a nation this year or next," said Eggert. On the other hand, he said, "recession-like conditions are likely to prevail in some industries and regions of the outflow. It's going to seem like a recession to some people."

It seems that way to Kevin O'Brien's line of work, which grew by a record 18 per cent last year, and this year is up to 24 per cent over that pace. Customers line up before opening and use a night-drip slint long past closing.

The number of employees has nearly tripled in four years.

O'Brien's shop isn't the hippest high-tech firm or video store, he's the clerk for the US bankruptcy court in Phoenix, now one of the busiest in the nation.

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Whatever it's called, the declining availability of credit doesn't seem to have drastically affected consumer spending, at least not yet. Consumers account for much of the nation's economic activity.

another 30 days to put a reorganisation plan in place.

Seven of Arizona's 10 Savings and Loans are controlled by the federal government, which must sell or dispose of \$15 billion worth of assets in the state. A survey by the accounting firm Kenneth Leventhal and Company found the worst shortage of credit in Arizona in nearly two decades.

"We're virtually redefined in terms of new financing," said former Phoenix mayor Terry Goddard, now a gubernatorial candidate.

But across the country in Washington, talk of a credit crunch is



Margaret Thatcher

'We'll join when time is right'

Linking of pound to Europe's exchange rate

LONDON, June 4. (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday refused to commit herself to when Britain would link the pound to Europe's exchange rate mechanism.

Her refusal followed remarks from Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl yesterday that he expected the pound to join soon.

The mechanism limits the exchange rate movements of nine out of the common market's 12 currencies.

Asked in the House of Commons whether she agreed with Poehl's comments, Thatcher said: "I would not disagree that we are bound to join the exchange rate mechanism, we have accepted that."

"We shall join, as Karl Otto Poehl said, when the time is right."

Prompting laughter, she said: "I do not know quite what he meant by soon, but I could agree or disagree with it according to what means."

Thatcher repeated that Britain is committed to linking the pound when Britain's conditions are fulfilled.

Britain says its inflation rate, running at 9.7 per cent, first must fall in line with the European Economic Community average, currently at about 5 per cent.

Earlier yesterday, Poehl said he wasn't enthusiastic about a British counterproposal to European monetary union.

Speaking to a committee in the House of Lords, Poehl restated his demand that an independent European central bank be given

full control over European Economic Community members' monetary affairs.

A European central bank must have "sole control of the price and quantity of money" in the EEC, while such responsibilities as banking supervision could be left in the hands of national central banks, he said.

Poehl also said he didn't think it was "very helpful" to add the so-called hard European currency unit proposed by Britain to the existing 12 EEC currencies as an intermediate step toward closer EEC economic co-operation.

"I am not so enthusiastic about that proposal," Poehl told the committee. But, he continued, "we have studied it carefully and after that we may come to a different conclusion."

Economic summit draws protesters

HOUSTON, July 4. (UPI): An estimated 12,000 demonstrators are expected to converge on Houston along with the leaders of the seven Western industrialised nations and 4,000 media representatives during the economic summit.

One of the first demonstrations is the Broccoli Summit, a light-hearted rally Friday making fun of President George Bush's dislike of the green veggie. But other demonstrations, such as the Ku Klux Klan rally on Saturday, have authorities more concerned.

Aids activists have planned a downtown march followed by a Cure Aids Now rally Sunday, but organisers say they plan no disruptive actions such as the one the nation witnessed during a recent conference on Aids in San Francisco.

Nearly 400 Houston police officers in riot gear will be used to monitor the Klan march and a rally at Hermann Park, said Capt. Milton Simmons of the special operations division of the Houston police department.

"We have no intelligence as far as any violent activity that may occur," said Simmons. "But you never know. These son-of-a-guns, their whole purpose is to try and incite people. And they want you to be violent with them. That plays into their mode of operation."

"Hopefully, we won't have any trouble, but the potential is there," he said. Although recommending that the public stay away from the rally, Simmons said he expects some anti-Klan protests to occur.

Charles Lee, a spokesman for the White Camelia Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and the Texas White Knights, said he wants Bush and other world leaders to know "that white power and white racism is alive and well in America."

Lee said up to 400 Klansmen, Aryan nations representatives and neo-Nazi skinheads from across the United States will participate in the march and rally.

"What they (summit delegates) are going to be doing actually is plotting against the American taxpayer," said Lee, who lives in the Houston area.

"We feel that George Bush doesn't represent the interests of Americans anymore. He keeps sending all of our money. They're going to have people coming down representing Japan, which we think is waging an economic war against our country."

Some \$20,000 have been authorised for the police department to buy new helmets, gas masks and riot jackets in preparation for activities surrounding the summit, which include at least 15 demonstrations.

About 1,500 officers will be assigned to cover summit-related security and \$1 million to \$2 million will be spent on overtime, police said.

Don Treshman, national director of the Houston-based Rescue America, said he would like to show summit leaders that "the streets of Houston are safe for everyone, the mothers with the children and the dignitaries."

"We think that will be a positive image to send back, showing Houston as a city at peace and harmony rather than the death and destruction that seems to be rampant ... at abortion clinics."

Summit leaders face world full of change

Focus on agricultural trade reform

WASHINGTON, July 4. (UPI): The leaders of the seven major industrialised nations, gathering this week in Houston, face a world of change in their first economic summit of the post-cold war era.

Since meeting last summer in Paris, the leaders have witnessed the remarkable march of Eastern Europe away from communism toward market-oriented economies, the approach of a reunified Germany and the continued crumbling of the Soviet economy.

In addition to these hefty matters of state, the world's leaders have felt steady pressure to improve the global environment.

Summit organisers said this week's meeting, Monday through Wednesday, is intended to help the heads of state learn how others have

managed to weather the changes and cope with the unsettled economic climate.

The three-day meeting is expected to focus on agricultural trade reform, the environment and economic assistance to such countries as the Soviet Union, China and Latin America.

Focus

President Bush intends to focus his discussions with his counterparts from Canada, England, France, Germany, Italy and Japan on the successful conclusion of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade's current Uruguay round of trade talks.

Other topics on the president's agenda include drumming up support for his recent Latin American trade and debt-reduction initiative and a review of efforts to preserve the environment.

European leaders are expected to bring to the summit the issue of financial aid to the Soviet Union, while Japan lobbies for the release of \$5.2 billion in development loans to China, which were frozen following the massacre at Tiananmen Square.

The successful conclusion of the current Gatt negotiations, scheduled to end in December, rests with reaching agreements to ease European agricultural export subsidies and improve market access for foreign products.

"That is one of the things they will be debating behind the scenes," said C. Michael Abo, director of economic studies at the non-partisan Council on Foreign Relations.

Discipline

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said it is "especially important" to develop discipline in the area of agricultural trade, which he noted is rife with "very serious and expensive distortions."

Agricultural trade reform, called by one analyst "the first test of capitalist co-operation," has become one of the thorniest issues for world trade talks, with the United States and the European Economic Community disagreeing about the scope of reform.

United States trade representative Carla Hills said she is hopeful the summit will clear up the major differences on agricultural reform, which include such trade-distorting measures as export subsidies, internal supports and barriers to market access.

"We are willing to negotiate but we simply must have a reduction in the three areas," Hills said. "Our choice is to ratchet up (US export subsidies) or persuade Europe to bring down their stratospheric export subsidies whereby they bribe the market. That simply needs to change."

Hills said the European Economic Community annually spends \$9 billion in agricultural export subsidies compared with about \$500 million by the United States.

Edward Hudgins, deputy director of economic policies studies at the Heritage Foundation, a Washington "think-tank," said the European leaders are expected to resist pressure to alter their agricultural policies.

"Basically, they have their attention fixed on 1992 and Eastern European integration," he said. "There is a tendency for them to say they don't have the time, or incentive to deal with this."

The political and economic upheaval of Eastern Europe and the prospects of a reunified Germany are sure to be discussed in Houston, giving West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl a heightened presence at the meeting.

Japan, powered by its second-longest period of continuous postwar economic expansion, is expected to test its political wings in the international arena by pressing for foreign aid for China.



Selling gestures

A Manila stock trader gestures out an intention to sell during opening trade at one of Manila's two bourses on Tuesday. Philippine shares slipped to close lower as sellers dominated the market at the opening and closing sessions in reaction to the acquittal of Imelda Marcos on racketeering charges in New York. (Reuter wirephoto)

Strike concern boosts factory orders

WASHINGTON, July 4. (Reuter): Orders received by US factories climbed a healthy 2.1 per cent in May, the Commerce Department reported yesterday but the \$5 billion rise primarily reflected automakers' concern about a fall strike.

While the report complemented other information showing strength among manufacturing industries that should offset recession, analysts cautioned it was strongly affected by carmakers building up inventories.

"This is likely a buildup in anticipation of a work stoppage in the auto industry," commented Norman Robertson, chief economist at Mellon Bank in Pittsburgh. "So these numbers may look stronger than they really are."

Automakers are expected to continue building

stocks during the summer in preparation for a possible September strike by members of the United Auto Workers Union.

Excluding transportation equipment, which includes automobiles, factory orders gained 0.8 per cent in May after a 0.1 per cent drop in April, the department said.

The May increase in total orders, to a seasonally adjusted \$241 billion, followed a revised 2.1 per cent decline in orders during April, instead of 2.3 per cent fall.

A key component of factory orders, durable goods orders, rose 4.0 per cent in May after falling 4.1 per cent in April. Durable goods are items like refrigerators and automobiles, designed to last at least three years.

Building societies facing crisis

SYDNEY, July 4. (AP): A run on deposits has forced the government to close a group of building societies to prevent a chain reaction that could endanger the life savings of hundreds of thousands of Australians.

Victoria State also pledged yesterday that all of the small, uninsured depositors would get their money back.

Some 220,000 Australians had faced the loss of their life savings in the failure of Farrow Corp., comprising three building societies, which primarily were to establish to make home-mortgage loans. Building societies are savings-and-loan institutions, which earn their interest primarily from mortgage loans.

Victoria's decision to ensure the deposits could cost the financially troubled state up to 1 billion dollars (\$800 million US), although the final toll will be determined after the assets of Farrow Corp. are sold off. Banks that loaned the company money will get first shot at those funds.

Some critics have called for Victoria Premier John Cain to resign over the financial crisis, which conceivably could lead to the fall of the state government.

There also could be repercussions on the national level, where the labour government scored a narrow victory earlier this year following the loss of nine Parliament seats in Victoria.

Government-appointed administrator Ken Russell announced Sunday night that Farrow would not be allowed to reopen.

The action followed a run on deposits that dropped Farrow's liquidity from about 400 million dollars (\$316 million US) in February to about 60 million dollars (\$47 million US) last week. The run started after news that Farrow had run into trouble with its loan strategy.

Russell initially warned that some depositors could lose some of their money.

Depositors then pressured Victoria and threatened to file suit, pointing out that then-state treasurer Rob Jolly had assured them in February that their funds were secure.

Thatcher justifies Rover sale

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher believes her government's role in the controversial sale of the Rover car group to British Aerospace, was justified because it was in the interests of 190,000 workers and the taxpayer, officials said Tuesday.

The European Commission last Wednesday ordered BAE to repay 44.4 million pounds (\$77 million) it received in government "sweeteners" to encourage the aircraft company in 1988 to buy the ailing Rover car group.

The 12-nation body said the payments contravened European competition laws, and its directive sparked a fierce debate in the lower house. (UPI)

Daimler-Benz wins approval: West Berlin gave the go-ahead on Tuesday for West Germany's biggest company, Daimler-Benz AG, to build offices on a Berlin Wall wasteland in a move which backs the city's bid to be the capital of reunited Germany.

The Potsdamer Platz site, once the buzzing centre of old Berlin, is now a rubble-strewn no-man's land even though the wall dividing it came down in November.

"This is a signal for other investors. It's very important for the city," West Berlin Mayor Walter Momper told reporters after a joint council meeting in East Berlin's town hall.

He said the West Berlin ruling Senate's approval for Daimler-Benz, maker of the Mercedes car, to buy the prime site at a preferential price would attract other firms to Berlin, a banking and industrial centre when it was Germany's capital before 1945. (Reuters)

Toyota building engine plant in UK: Toyota Motor Corp. said Wednesday it has started building a new 140 million pound engine plant at Deeside in Cwtyrd, north Wales.

The Nagoya-based company said the facility will be the first engine plant for its car manufacturing venture in Britain. Toyota Motor Manufacturing (UK) Ltd., which is scheduled to start operation in the middle of 1992.

The company's 700 million pound car-manufacturing plant currently is under construction at Burnaston in Derbyshire.

The engine facility will employ about 200 workers in the first phase and an additional 100 jobs will be created in the second stage, the company said. (UPI)

Australia to supply Japan mills: Major Japanese steel mills have agreed in principle to import iron ore and coal from newly developed mines in Australia. Kobe Steel Ltd. reported Wednesday.

The company said four Japanese steel makers will import 3.1 million tons of iron ore annually from Broken Hill Proprietary Co. over seven years, starting in April 1992.

The Japanese importers will be Nippon Steel Corp., Kawasaki Steel Corp., Kobe Steel and Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd.

Kobe said iron ore will be shipped from the Yandiocogina mine about 55 miles (90 km) north of Mt. Newman in western Australia. Deposits at the mine are estimated at 320 million tons, it said. (UPI)

Sansui rehabilitation plan: Sansui Electric Co., controlled by Polly Peck International of Britain, said Wednesday it will start exporting newly-developed video tape recorders to the United States this month as part of its business reconstruction programme.

"We plan to export from 100,000 to 145,000 VTRs per month to the United States, starting this month," said a spokesman for the company.

The official, who declined to be named, said the company also is studying a plan to export VTRs manufactured at PPT's production base in Turkey to both Western and Eastern Europe, starting around November this year.

Tatsuya Imanishi, newly appointed president of the company, told a news conference Tuesday the company aims to produce operating profits of about 1.2 billion yen (\$7.9 million) at the end of this year. (UPI)

Corporate telecom network

KDD launches new service

TOKYO, June 4. (UPI): KDD (Overseas Communications Japan) said today it will start corporate telecommunications network service tomorrow, jointly with MCI Telecommunications Corp. of the United States and British Telecom.

The giant international telecommunications company said the new service will enable subscribers to use leased circuits for data, voice, facsimile or character communications.

KDD's international leased circuits in Tokyo and Osaka, Japan's second largest city about 250 miles (400 km) west of Tokyo, with those of MCI's system in Piscataway, New Jersey, and BT's system in London.



Arthur Scargill

'Didn't have fingers in the till'

Probe clears Scargill

SHEFFIELD, July 3. (Reuter): Britain's most militant union leader, Arthur Scargill, said yesterday he had been cleared by an independent inquiry examining allegations he solicited and then misappropriated money during a miners' strike in 1984.

The Daily Mirror newspaper alleged in March that Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), launched a secret operation which received £163,000 (\$288,500) in hardship money from Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi.

The Mirror alleged Scargill used some of the money to repay loans for himself and two of his officials, including NUM General Secretary Peter Heathfield. Scargill denied the charge.

Scargill said last night that the independent inquiry, set up by the NUM after the Daily Mirror report, exonerated him from misuse of funds in the bitter 12-month pit war against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

"They just can't stand to have me in over there," Scargill told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "They are just not going to allow any American to be involved in corporate Japan — it's that simple. We're going to try and change that."

Throughout the annual meeting, Koito stockholders heckled Pickens and his entourage. Finally Pickens stormed out of the meeting.

"When I walked in the door the first thing I heard was 'Yankee go home'," Pickens said.

Pickens vows to increase holdings in Koito

DALLAS, July 4. (UPI): Texas oilman T. Boone Pickens Jr says he will move quickly to boost his stake in Koito Manufacturing Co. to 33 per cent from 26 per cent, despite another defeat of his attempt to gain seats on the board of the Japanese auto parts maker.

Pickens, who lost his bid to secure four board seats at Koito's annual stockholders meeting in Tokyo last week, said Monday he plans to buy more Koito stock that could cost him an additional \$160 million at about \$20 a share. His current investment in Koito

through his Boone Co. unit already has made him Koito's largest shareholder.

Pickens and Koito have been battling for over a year. Pickens has used the Koito case to tell the world that Japan does not give the same access to foreign investors as the United States does to outsiders.

Koito has maintained Pickens is a corporate raider who wants to recoup his investment in the company through greenmail, an inflated price a company pays to repurchase stock in order to thwart a hostile takeover.

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Scargill cleared

200 years of children's clothes capture social norms

Metropolitan's display reflects childhood innocence

By Frederick M. Winship

NEW YORK (UPI): Children were the last people to get clothes designed for their own special needs and comfort, having to put up with miniature versions of their parents' garments until this century.

A new exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum's Costume Institute illustrates this fashion phenomenon better than any book on sociology ever could. It's an eye-opener as well as an eye-pleaser and will be on display until Sept. 9.

"Small Illusions: Children's Costume 1710-1920" is the museum's first show in more than 30 years to be devoted solely

to small fry fashion. It includes 65 examples displayed on mannequins with particularly effective coiffures made of curled ribbon.

In most museum fashion exhibitions, children's costumes are displayed as props in adult costume shows, mainly to introduce the element of cuteness.

"What I like about this show is that it isn't cute," said Stanley J. Love, head of one of the nation's oldest children's wear manufacturing firms and sponsor of the exhibition along with his family's Joseph Love Foundation. "This is a serious show that can teach us a lot."

A Joseph Love 1920 organdy

print dress of Bo-Peepish inspiration is one of the most modern exhibits in the show, which ends with a 1921 green wool dress and coat ensemble by Lanvin of Paris and a 1924 linen chemise appliqued with tulips by Mignonpouf, both of which are amazingly contemporary.

They are also among the few things in the show that boys or girls of today could wear and not feel like being in a museum exhibit. There are, however, some charming silk taffeta dresses of the 1850s and 1860s, three-quarter length and slightly full-skirted, in which the 1990 young lady might feel at home in at a party.

"They're pretty but the

colours are all wrong for today," observed Love pointing to the muddy toffee, teal and ashes of the roses tones of the taffetas and the browns and greys of tahhy striped silk. "They didn't go out in the sun then, so these colours were all right with very white skin, but today we want brighter, lighter hues."

Show curator Kimberly Fink noted that children's clothes were not generally preserved, as were adult's more expensive finery, and are hard to come by. One of the earliest costumes in the show, a 1740 brown wool and silk English dress, is a recent museum acquisition.

"It is shaped and constructed just like women's gowns of the

era but it has "leading strings" — two lengths of fabric sewn into the shoulder seams — to restrain the child," Fink pointed out.

Fink noted that children were not credited with being free-thinking individuals until the late 18th century and did not attain individuality of attire until less than 100 years ago. A boy's costume of the 1750s included a dashing broadcloth coat, waistcoat and knee breeches that are exact copies of his father's apparel.

A little known fact is that boys of the colonial period and early 19th century wore dresses until they were about six years old — actually a skirted coat over trousers. By the mid-19th century there was a turnabout, with

girls wearing muslin trousers, called pantaloons, under their skirts and petticoats.

An 1860 boy's two-piece suit with knee trousers in blue broadcloth bound in braid is quite a handsome turnout for an active boy. But by the 1880s and 1890s, fashions for young men were more romantic, influenced no doubt by the black velvet suits with lace collars worn by little Lord Fauntleroy.

The suits worn by novelist Frances Hodgson Burnett's Fauntleroy character reportedly were inspired by Oscar Wilde, and little boys hated the sissified attire. Proof of that is the pained expression on the face of New Yorker George Alexander

Phelps in a photograph of him in a Fauntleroy suit included in the exhibition.

Sailor suits and dresses, popularised by Queen Victoria's children, provided a nautical theme for summerwear from the 1870s to World War I. There also were plaid outfits for both sexes, inspired by the highland styles in which Victoria dressed her brood on their vacations in Scotland.

While reflecting childhood innocence, is a dominant fashion note throughout the show, never lovelier than in the late Victorian and Edwardian periods when white linen combined with lace transformed young ladies into princesses, or at least daddy's little angels.

The most elaborately embroidered linen dress and jacket edged with Irish lace in the show was worn by an American princess, Grace Vanderbilt, daughter of the Cornelius Vanderbilt, in 1910. Grace's cousin, Orme Wilson, wore the boy's white ribbed pique skirted coat with lace collar on the mannequin nearby.

The show is enhanced by fancy dress costumes, dolls, miniature portraits of children, silver rattles and teething rings, and portraits of children through the years by artists ranging from Ralph Earle, an 18th century itinerant, to American-born French impressionist Mary Cassatt.

Julia revels in story of lust, war

British actress plays Catherine the Great

By Carlton Stuart

CAMERAS will soon be lining the streets of Leningrad as movie-makers once more tell the lurid story of one of the sexiest and most deadly women in history. And playing the part of Russia's Catherine the Great this time will be cool British beauty Julia Ormond.

Young Julia will be following in the booted footsteps of such screen greats as Marlene Dietrich, Pola Negri, Tallulah Bankhead and Bette Midler. They all revelled in the story of lust and death in the snow.

Julia, 24, recently played the role of a young girl in a film about the Russian Revolution, and will play out the classic story in what used to be the Czarist city of St Petersburg.

And it was through these streets that the Iron Lady used to gallop in disguise, on her way to visit an endless string of lovers. And she was just as dedicated to making war as making love.

Man-eating Catherine, who ruled Russia for 30 years, used to dress as a Prussian cavalry officer as she personally led her troops against the armies of Turkey and Poland.

Julia, 24, will play Catherine the Great, who died in 1796, in a script writer's dream.

In the winter of 1744 a frightened 15-year-old German teenager, shivering beneath her furs huddled into a coach thundering across Europe. Ahead of the girl, Sophia Augusta Frederica, Princess of Anhalt-Zerbst-Bernburg, lay the holy Russia of the Tsars, ruled over by the House of Romanov.

Sophia, whose father was an obscure German prince in the service of the king of Prussia, had been picked by the Russian Empress Elizabeth as a likely bride for her adolescent nephew, the Grand Duke Peter.

Along St Petersburg's flag-bedecked streets and with bells peeling, Sophia and her mother Johanna sped on their journey to Moscow. She was a pawn in an international game played by the beautiful Russian Empress, Elizabeth Petrovna, daughter of Peter the Great.

The scheming Elizabeth had, in 1741, seized the throne of all the Russians after a military coup.

She had sent the rightful Tsar, youthful Ivan VI, into imprisonment and exile. Elizabeth then nominated her pale, 13-year-old nephew, Peter Ulrich, as her heir.

The empress had an eye on possible trade and political expansion of her empire into Prussia but, above all, the



Julia Ormond: latest in a long line of actresses to play Catherine the Great.

succession of the Romanovs had to be assured. Sophia Augusta Frederica had been picked for a potentially promising marriage. Little did anyone foresee just how that shrinking teenager would blossom.

The empress took no chance. At Moscow's Annenbourg Palace, Sophia and her mother were besieged by members of the imperial guard to remove private quarters. Sophia later wrote: "It was as if we were both under arrest."

The empress Elizabeth was determined that Sophia should be kept away from insatiable court gossip. At 16, the gawky, slow-witted Grand Duke Peter was already a byword as a drunkard and a rake.

At their first meeting, Peter told Sophia: "I happen to be in love with one of the empress's ladies-in-waiting. But I will marry you because it is my aunt's wish."

Elizabeth laid on an intimate supper for the couple in the royal apartment. Wine flowed lavishly and Peter felt confident of an easy seduction. In a fury,

Sophia fled back to her mother.

Reluctantly, Elizabeth kept up the pressure. In the morning, mother and daughter were summoned to an empress who oozed charm and invested both women with the title of Dame of St Catherine. Sophia was pined with fabulous jewels, bales of velvet and brocade and lengths of French lace.

The empress, however, sensed opposition to the marriage of Johanna, who had not troubled to conceal her dislike for the lecherous Grand Duke. Elizabeth moved fast. Within a week, the betrothal was announced — after Sophia's mother had been hounded back to Germany.

Princess Sophia Augusta Frederica ceased to exist. She had been given the title and new name of Grand Duchess Catherine Alexeyevna, and was to be known as Catherine. She was forced to write love letters to her fiancé — dictated by a specially appointed tutor in the Russian language. On August 21, 1754, Catherine became the wife of Grand Duke Peter, who had contracted smallpox.

With a barely concealed shudder, Catherine stole a glance at her bridegroom during the wedding ceremony. His nose was swollen, his eyes watered, his pock-marked face was red and bloated.

The wedding night was a disaster. Catherine wrote in her memoirs: "I remained alone for over two hours, not knowing what I had to do, whether to get up or remain in bed. At last the newly-appointed woman of the bedchamber appeared and gaily told me that the Grand Duke was waiting to be served with supper, and would come as soon as he had finished."

Finally, smelling of drink and tobacco, he lurched to bed. It was Catherine's introduction to a nightmare of a marriage. The smallpox had brought about sharp mental decline in her husband.

Peter spent their honeymoon nights playing with his childhood toys or terrifying his young bride by locking a pack of bounds in her dressing-room.

Catherine began to lay careful plans for survival. First, she set out to flatter the powerful Elizabeth. Rising each morning at dawn, she spent at least three hours mastering Russian language and history. She also professed devotion to the Orthodox faith she had been forced to adopt.

Meanwhile, Catherine recruited a stable of young courtiers to share her bed. It was a dangerous game. For discovery by Elizabeth or Peter could mean imprisonment and exile in Siberia.

But passionate Catherine thought the risk's worthwhile. She had a two-year passionate affair with Polish aristocrat Stanislaus Poniatowski. The two lived in an enchanted world of secret assignments, moonlit drives along St Petersburg's frozen Neva river and whispered words in the shadow of palace gardens.

Catherine maintained the facade of her marriage. The identity of the father of her son, Paul, born in 1754, and subsequent children was never revealed.

Elizabeth, took over Paul's upbringing.

Comic battle of the sexes

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD (UPI): Director Blake Edwards' comedy *Victor Victoria*, was an ingenious and hilarious look at the battle of the sexes, which he takes a step further in his new movie *Switch*.

Edwards, who starred his wife, Julie Andrews, in *Victor Victoria*, is fascinated by the age-old confrontations between males and females, their differences, their similarities and their apparent inability to find peace and harmony whether together or apart.

In *Victor Victoria* Andrews played a woman posing as a man who makes her living as a female impersonator.

"That was complicated," Edwards said during a lunch break at a Malibu Beach location for *Switch*.

"This time I'm dealing with a very chauvinistic man who is murdered by three of his girlfriends whom he has treated very badly."

"The man dies and finds himself in purgatory. He is determined to return to life to atone for all his sins. In order to do so he makes a deal with the devil who imposes a handicap."

"The devil agrees, but only if he comes back to life in a woman's body (Ellen Barkin) and convinces one of his many ex-girlfriends to say something — anything — good about him."

Edwards grinned, pleased with the premise. "It's a comedy, sure, but it has a serious underlying thought. It gives a male chauvinist and womanizer and opportunity to see life from a female point of view and what women have to put up with from men."

"There are plenty of weird situations, including the man's reactions when he is hit on by men — including his best friend — who don't know that beneath the female exterior lies the heart, soul and a mind of a man."

Edwards is an analytical writer-director who ponders the elements of comedy before he sets forth on his films, which included *The Pink Panther* series among other runaway hits.

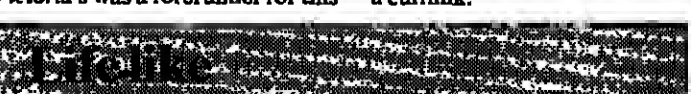
"I like to think there is a basis of reality in my comedies," he said.

"But I'm not sure. God knows, I've tried to base humour on character. I have a very hard time with a lot of the comedies today, finding character to support the humour. Mostly it's very shallow and I can see the attempt at being profound."

"The pace of most comedy today is accelerated. It doesn't allow time to be spent looking around corners anymore or smelling the roses — and getting water squirted in your face."

"Some people will say *Switch* is a traditional Blake Edwards theme. They say I'm preoccupied with the gender role — men and women playing roles."

"If you look at my films other than *Victor Victoria*, my pictures don't follow that theme. But this is another step. You could say *Victor Victoria* was a forerunner for this — a cufflink."



ONLY the broken skulls remained of the young woman on the left and the Minoan priest in the background. They had died violently 37 centuries ago in a temple on the island of Crete after a savage earthquake brought the building crashing down and a fire swept through the ruins in its wake.

But now, under the skillful hands of Richard Neave, medical artist to the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manchester, north-west England, their heads and faces are carefully reconstructed to show how they would have looked in life.

The department carries out illustrative work, both in model form and in terms of highly detailed and accurate drawings, for the university and for medical publishers all over the world.

Some of the other historical characters the department has helped to identify include Philip II, King of Greece, and father of Alexander the Great, and also King Midas, found by American archaeologists in the great tumulus at Gordian in Turkey. One particularly challenging case was the Egyptian mummy of a 14-year-old girl whose skull, underneath the wrappings, was crushed into 30 fragments.

The department is also well-known for its work on the "Lindow man," a Celt who was the victim of ritual murder some 2000 years ago, and whose body was found in a peat bog in Cheshire, north-west England.



Tribute to Venetian painter

Titian returns to haunt Doges' Palace

VENICE, Italy. (Reuter): Venice's greatest painter has returned to haunt the opulent apartments where Doges once sat for his unforgetting brush.

Warts, wrinkles and all, a Renaissance pope, cardinals, and some of the doges who once ruled the Venetian republic stare out of Titian's brilliantly coloured canvases.

Along with sensuous nudes they are back on the walls of the Doges' Palace, the symbol of Venice's power and glory, in a rare tribute by the canal city to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Titian's birth.

Many of the masterpieces were sold off by Venice in the 18th century to refill its coffers as the once mighty Venetian empire slid steadily into decline.

Half the exhibition's works come from abroad and they will leave Venice again in October for Washington's National Gallery of Art.

About 100 frescoes, paintings and sketches spanning the whole of Titian's 70-year career at the service of his sparkling, libertine city show how he ruled his time.

His languid nudes mirror the atmosphere of 16th-century Venice, then Europe's capital of carefree partying, and set a standard for physical beauty and often sumptuous eroticism.

The mythological Danae, the most voluptuous of them all, "would make the devil himself enter the brain of a cardinal," tut-tutted once clerics shortly after she was finished.

Knees raised, she lies upon a couch awaiting Jupiter her seducer, who descends to her in a shower of golden rain. The hand with which she clutches the sheet, like the rest of her body, glows softly in a warm light.

The exhibition shows the prolific nature of Titian's long career, from the idyllic pagan worlds of his youth — with no room for anything commonplace or sordid — to the bitter, tragic depths of his old age.

His birth date is generally accepted as 1490, two years before Columbus discovered America, and he became the favourite of an emperor, Charles V, and of a king, the emperor's son Philip II of

Spain.

Charles was so pleased by Titian's work, says Renaissance art historian Giorgio Vasari, that once they had met he would never be painted by anyone else, "and every time Titian did his portrait he made him a gift of a thousand crowns in gold."

The canvases hanging under the ornate frescoed ceilings of the Doges' Palace highlight how many masterpieces there are among more than 100 portraits painted by Titian during his long career.

He penetrated the character of the Holy Roman Emperor and his son, as well as those of a pope and countless aristocrats, and recorded them without paying lip-service to his masters' egoes.

The tip of Pope Paul III's hulking nose is blood-shot, as red as his cracked lips, and the character of the crafty statesman, bent with age, shines through.

Titian was only a little kinder to Doge Andrea Gritti. The wrinkles are there above a white beard, emphasised by a piercing frown. As befits his mighty office, his gigantic body fills the large canvas.

Recent restoration work on more than a dozen of Titian's works has made the exhibition more than just an anniversary tribute.

"It's given us a new reading of Titian because the restoration shows just how brilliant his colours are," said Professor Giandomenico Romanelli, head of the exhibition's scientific committee.

X-ray tests and computer analyses of several major works, including the monumental "Assumption" in Venice's St Mary's Church, have revealed touches by Titian himself and show how he crushed deep blue lapis lazuli pigment to obtain unprecedented shades.

Freed from thick layers of cracked varnish and the attentions of would-be restorers, the rich landscape Titian repainted for his master Giovanni Bellini's "Feast of the Gods" glows with luscious greens which echo the tunic of the slumbering deities.

His use of brilliant colour, breathing life into goddesses and apostles, makes Titian one of the virtuoso painters of the Renaissance, alongside contemporaries

Michelangelo and Raphael.

In his old age, he would lay the brush aside to mix colours and add shadows with his bare hands, often showing rancour and even hatred of his work as it progressed, according to his apprentices.

The colours he applied to his very last work are appropriately subdued, as befits a canvas of all-prevailing sorrow which he intended for his own burial chamber.

The "Pieta" was found unfinished in his studio after Titian, then in his eighties, died of old age as plague raged in Venice. The body of Christ slumped on the Virgin's lap is as pallid as the monumental stone arch rising above them.

Titian painted himself into the picture, a half-naked, bearded old man kneeling and touching Christ's left hand.

He had been promised the canvas would ornament the chapel in St Mary's where he was to be buried.

But mighty Venice fell before the century was out. The dying republic could no longer afford to build the chapel and the promise was broken.

BLONDIE

By Dean Young



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By Mark Brown



AGATHA CRUM

By Bill Hoest



BEETLE BAILEY

By Mont Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Grant Parker



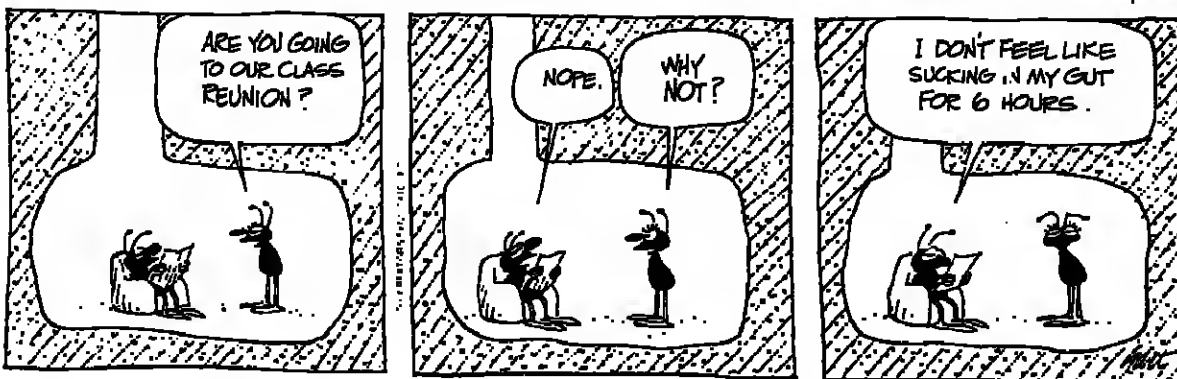
ANDY CAPP

By Andy Capp



B.C.

By Johnny Hart

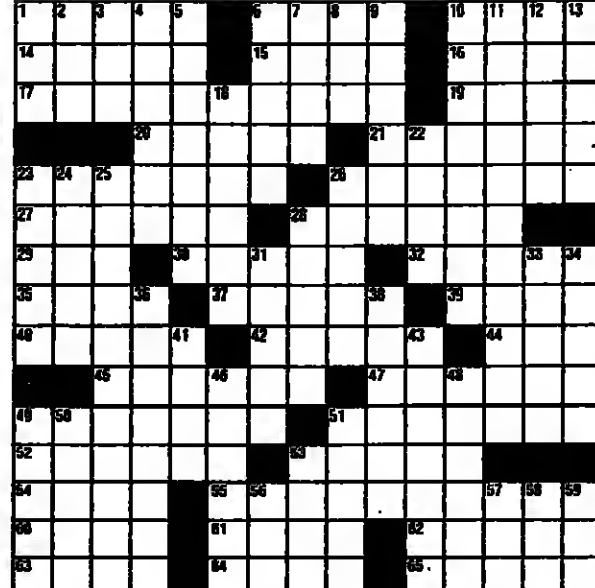


HE-MAN

By G. Forton & J. Shul



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Centennial state
 - 61 Gigantic
 - 10 Bubble or opera
 - 14 Province of S Belgium
 - 15 Sweetsop
 - 16 Columnist
 - 17 Baseball feats
 - 19 River, in Peru
 - 20 Fangs and tusks
 - 21 Arrival
 - 23 Globes
 - 26 State flower of 1 Across
 - 27 "— Always Tomorrow": 1956 film
 - 28 Split into two equal parts
 - 29 Olive product
 - 30 Radar beacon
 - 32 Teeter
 - 35 Evils
 - 37 — pine: state tree of 1 Across
 - 39 Rouse
 - 40 Chargas
 - 42 "Sing — of sixpence..."
 - 44 Greek sea goddess
 - 45 Pressing concern
 - 47 Lacking
 - 49 Crossed by 65 Across on way to 1 Across
 - 51 Furnish with funds
 - 52 "Return to —"
 - 53 Mallet
 - 54 "Do — would be done by"
 - 55 Stream of
- DOWN**
- 1 Teeter-totter
 - 22 Sketched
 - 23 Impressive
 - 24 S.S. Van Dine's Vance
 - 25 Gorge in 1 Across
 - 26 "It's a — tell a lie"
 - 28 Capital of 1 Across
 - 31 Pursuit
 - 33 Of wine
 - 34 Wear away
 - 36 Shrii; loud
 - 38 Escarole
 - 41 Withered
 - 43 Army officer
 - 46 Part of a bird's body
 - 48 Suitcase
 - 49 Sacred song
 - 50 Look at again
 - 51 Muslim ascetic
 - 53 Special performance
 - 56 Utmost degree
 - 57 Oath
 - 58 Yale
 - 59 Headland

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

HAMS CURL DIN
ELIA ARIES MINE
ROLLING PIN OARS
BEE DIES ELOPES
SONS PAINE
OAPPLE MAKE HAG
ARTAS GAPE PIA
MINT WATER BIDS
ESS CATER BONES
SET OLES GRASSY
ROLLS ERAS
SHINTO AMOS LAS
LOPE PINCUSHION
APES SLEEP ANNA
WES EWES SLEEP

FOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
DON'T TELL DECLARER WHAT TO PLAY

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A K Q J 8
♥ A 7 4
♦ 6 2
♣ A 8 7

WEST
♠ 10
♥ K Q J 10 5 2
♦ Q 3
♣ Q J 10 6

EAST
♠ 6 4
♥ 9
♦ J 10 9 8 7 4
♣ 9 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ 9 7 5 3 2
♥ 8 6 3
♦ A K 5
♣ K 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 2 ♥ 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♥
We have nothing but praise for a defender who tries to help partner make the correct decision. But it is another matter when you tip off declarer to the winning line.

This hand cropped up in a game of Chicago at New York's Cavenish Club. While we do not approve of South's one-spade opening bid, it was made in an effort to "kill" the opponents' vulnerability — with two and a half defensive tricks, it was unlikely East-West could make any high-level contract, but that might not be the case if the deal were

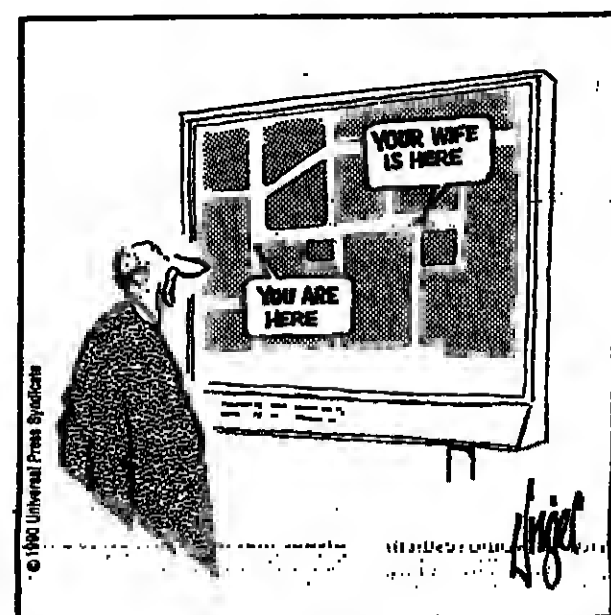
to be passed and redealt. North's decision to jump to six spades is as good a bid as in the light of his partner's opening bid and West's intervention.

West's king of hearts was taken by the ace and declarer did not like his chances. To avoid two heart losers, he would have to engineer an endplay, but he had no idea about the distribution of the hands. Nor were any discovery plays available.

However, declarer could afford to draw three rounds of trumps and he proceeded to do so. West's two heart discards did not help declarer at all, but on the third trump East discarded the jack of diamonds! Declarer needed no more.

South cashed the king and ace of clubs and ruffed a club in hand. Next came the ace and king of diamonds, and when West showed out on the third diamond, declarer was half way home. Instead of ruffing, he discarded a heart from dummy. In with the diamond and down to nothing but minor-suit cards, East was forced to concede a ruff-stuff, allowing declarer to trump in hand while discarding the table's last heart.

When you first looked at this hand, did you ever for a moment think declarer's only loser would be in diamonds, and not in hearts?



Aries
March 21 - April 19
You will tend to be concerned with what is mainly theoretical. Instead you should seek to devote more time to what is practical. Do not become discouraged by the obstacles, just persevere. Be moderate.



Cancer
June 21 - July 20
Take matters more as they come, but do try to make changes for the better. You are liable to be easily irritated and should attempt to control yourself. Leave yourself with enough room for manoeuvre. Be sincere.



Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
You should not allow yourself to be distracted by secondary matters. Think hard about it before you make any changes, but do not be averse to change. Your lucky numbers are 12 and 38. Have a little more faith in yourself. Be frugal.



Capricorn
Dec. 21 - Jan. 19
Make sure you keep a promise you have made. You are liable to take rather too much for granted. Your emotions are likely to run away with you and you should make an effort to establish a better balance between reason and emotion. Be a little more patient.



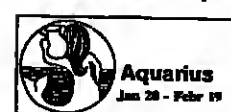
Taurus
April 21 - May 20
What you have been learning will now begin to fall into place. There is however still more to learn, so do not relax your efforts. A good talk will help to clear the air. Be amenable.



Leo
July 21 - Aug. 21
You should not try to use force where persuasion has not succeeded. Make sure you do not take on a commitment you would be unable to meet. Avoid taking exercise to the extent where you are exhausted. Be considerate.



Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 22
Before you make up your mind you should consider other people's attitudes and opinions. Watch out for mistakes made by others as well as by you. Take an interest in what interests your partner. Be diligent.



Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
You are all too liable to persuade yourself that what you would like to be actually is. Instead try to look at the facts of the matter a little more objectively. Do not allow yourself to be dissuaded too easily. Be fair.



Gemini
May 21 - June 20
If you ask a yes/no question the answer is likely to be 'no' when it is not really. Instead ask your question to allow for shades of opinion. Try to see the funny side of things too. Be sensible.



Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
You will not have time to do all you would like to do, so do make the best use of the time available to you. And try to organise your affairs better or else you will also waste time looking for things. Show more goodwill towards others. Be tactful.



Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
A temptation to spend recklessly must be resisted at all costs. Once you have made up your mind do not waver, act right away. Something you had been expecting will happen but not quite as you would have wished. Be alert.



Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20
You are all too likely to draw the wrong conclusions, so do examine matters a little more closely. Do not allow yourself to be distracted by trivialities. If a friend has done you a favour make sure you know how grateful you are. Be truthful.



"He's been teaching me to drive."



"I don't want you bringing your domestic problems to work."

Cairo's cats are everywhere – from airports to alleys

'Mish mish' are revered by Egyptians

CAIRO, Egypt. (AP): This is no place for someone who doesn't like cats. They're everywhere. Pyramids have cats. Apartment stairwells have them, and offices, and hospital examination rooms. Cats prowl hotel lobbies and restaurants. Theatres have cats, and bazzars have cats. Even the occasional airplane has them. It made front-page headlines. "Cat forces plane back to Cairo." The story attempted to explain how a cat managed to find its way into the cockpit of an Air Sinai flight heading for the Red Sea diving centre of Sharm El-Sheikh. The cat's howls evoked "pandemonium among the 31 passengers," the article said, forcing a turnaround and emergency landing. The plane took off again only after police gave the cat a chance to make a quick exit. Such capers are legendary in Egypt, where cats have a storied history. Cats were worshipped even before there were Pharaohs and remained sacred long after the Pharaohs were gone.

Egyptians long have recognized the skills of the creatures. Among Cairo's most famous performers are the singing cats of El-Gomhouriya Theatre, where operas and other highbrow programmes are staged. The animals long ago claimed the theatre as theirs. Hassan Kamy, Egypt's top tenor, recalled some of his less than impressive moments in opera when he was upstaged by El-Gomhouriya's home-grown comedy teams of cats. "It was the last act of 'La Boheme.' I was holding the dying mimi in my arms. The orchestra was silenced for the finale. A cat walked on stage," Kamy said. "At first the audience simply giggled quietly. But the cat took a long time getting across the stage, and I kept holding the dying mimi. Finally, the audience was in hysterics. But that wasn't the worst time. Kamy told the awful tale of two cats, another opera and a lamp. "It was a stage prop," he said. "All was fine until two cats decided to walk on stage and go to sleep at the base."

"It was act three, a love duet. You could feel the emotion in the air, the audience getting hotter. But so were the cats." They chose this moment to begin a romantic interlude under the lamp. The higher the diva sang, the higher they sang. The next day newspapers asked, "which had the greater range, the soprano or the cats?" Cats made another artistic headline last year by disrupting an Italian group's performance at Cairo's Talia theatre during an experiment theatre festival. The action in the Avant-Garde play occurred on a beach, and the actors insisted that sand be spread a foot (30 centimetres) deep across the stage. Midway through the performance, a troupe of cats wandered onto the stage. Delighted by the huge sandbox, they did what cats normally do with sand. The actors were horrified, but this time it was the audience, not the cats, who howled. Kamy said, "What can you do? Nobody will touch a cat. Even now, in the villages, people are scared of them, scared to

harm them or anger them. Cats are sacred in Egypt." They have been since the earliest days. A favourite goddess was the cat Bastet, sleek and sensual. House cats, domesticated from wilder strains, are depicted on tomb paintings as enjoying the better things in life. Short-haired and long-legged, the tabbies were much loved in life, much mourned at death. Especially in Greek and Roman times, around 2,000 years ago, worshippers bought mummified cats to bury near Bastet's sacred temples.

Anything goes ...

Producers' hysteria

—Firoze Rangoonwalla
Arab Times Correspondent

IT'S only in the Bombay film industry that more than forty new films can be launched in four days, just to circumvent the rule that may cut down the profits of the producers. But it's not like a mad race and a mad race it is. It all started after the Council of All-India Film Distributors passed a resolution that any new movie would be purchased only if its full video and cable rights were given along with theatrical rights. The council's treasurer Joginder Singh issued a stiff legal notice saying without the benefit of such rights, not a single film would be booked or allowed to be released. Violation of the rule by any distributor would result in disciplinary action. The ruling will come into effect after the films are completed after a year or more. As usual, a certain date was laid down and the rule would apply to any film which would start its "actual shooting" after that day. "Actual shooting" means the canning of at least 500 feet of film and giving it for processing, for which the laboratory normally issues a certificate. The new rule does not affect such films. Since producers wanted to hold as many rights of reproduction as possible, a mad rush to start films began. We can see how such films were shot. There were no ready stories, proper script or dialogue. Some disjointed scenes were somehow written and prepared for the camera. They begged stars to come for a few hours and deliver gibberish dialogue which they did not follow. If big stars were not around, they persuaded starlets and small fry to come. Some of them made the kind of money they would not earn in six months. In many cases, directors were not available or signed. So the producer shot the film himself. Junior assistants wielded the camera and other gadgets. It was obvious that these 500 feet of film would be thrown away and never be a part of the film. Surprisingly, leading producers were also a party to this. Among the avalanche of "muhurats" with "shooting," there were Mehul Kumar's *Meet Mere Man Ke*, Sawan Kumar's *Tak's Sonam Bewafa*, Shradha's *Korhori's Shudra*, Sultan Ahmed's *Ganga Ka Desh*, Vinod Verma's and B. Subhash's *Mamashree* and Vinod Talwar's *Khooni Panja*.



Sawan Kumar speeded up the launch of *Sanam Bewafa*. Above: Danny, Pran, Sawan Kumar, Rukhsaar and Salman.



Chunky and Varsha at the 'muhurat' of *Chhail Chhaila*.



Sanjay Dutt, Madhuri Dixit and Rishi Kapoor in *Sahiban*.

Poor people, affluent armies

LONDON: As industrialized nations focus their attention on peace and disarmament, a similar peace process must also start in the developing countries, says the Human Development Report published for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Military spending in the Third World causes greater damage because it involves sacrifice of basic necessities. Developing countries have eight times more soldiers than physicians and the ratio of soldiers to teachers in some cases is as high as 5 to 1. Arms imports by developing countries skyrocketed from only one billion dollars in 1960 to nearly \$35 billion by 1987. Three-quarters of the global arms trade involves exports to developing countries. Some of the poorest and least developed countries spend far more on their military than on their education and health. The report, written by a team of independent experts, says that significant reduction in military spending is necessary if poor countries are to extend basic facilities to their people. During the last 30 years, annual military expenditures of the developing nations increased about three times faster than in the industrialized countries, although their average per capita income is only six per cent of that in the industrial world. Governments in some developing countries are swamped by lobbyists and offers they can't resist, including illegal gratuities. As a result, decision makers readily divert resources from schools to submarines, from physicians to fighter planes. "To some countries," says the report, "education and health expenditures were cut but military expenditures actually rose. Obviously, the poverty of their economies was no barrier to the affluence of their armies." Mahbub ul Haq, former Minister for Finance and Planning of Pakistan, who headed the team commissioned to prepare the Human Development Report, believes that reduction in military spending is crucial if funds available for human development are to be increased. This may well become possible in the changed international climate of the 1990s, he says. The military budget of just one superpower is twice as much as the total military expenditure of the entire developing world, currently estimated at \$200 billion. "Rich nations," Haq says, "can increase aid for poor countries after cutting military spending. Poor countries must also spend more on health, nutrition, schooling and economic growth than on weapons." Figures for military spending stand in stark contrast with statistics for human deprivation. The report notes that more than a billion people in developing countries live in absolute poverty, 800 million go hungry every day, ten million have no homes and 900 million adults are unable to read or write. The report recommends that a power balance between military and social expenditures should become a legitimate area of concern and negotiation between donors and recipients of assistance in the coming decade.

Betsy's wedding

Ally's come of age

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Ally Sheedy felt trapped by all her coming-of-age roles so she dropped off the screen for a couple of years, but she's back in *Betsy's Wedding* and she's come of age. Sheedy's reasons for disappearing were simple. She found herself playing the same kind of girl — not woman — and feared it would stunt her professional growth. She took time out for other priorities. Her career began in 1983 with *Bad Boys*. She quickly followed that up with *War Games*, *Oxford Blues*, *The Breakfast Club*, *Twice In A Lifetime*, *St Elmo's Fire*, *Blue City*, *Short Circuit* and *Maid to Order*. She was a movie star, but she also wanted to be an actress and the two are not necessarily the same. In *Betsy's Wedding* Sheedy portrays a cop, Molly Riogwald's older sister, in a role that is not altogether sympathetic. She's a mature young woman on screen, not a kid looking for the meaning of life. At 27, she is playing a character near her own age. "Working with Molly again was like reunion," she said the other day, sipping a mid-day soft drink. "We play sisters and having worked together made it easier for both of us. We have a past together. It wasn't like meeting another actress and trying to fill in the details. We already had a relationship going." "It's easier for me to work with people a second or third time because a certain amount of trust is established and you understand the other person's moods and habits on the set. Molly and I are both moody." "Working with Judd Nelson in three pictures made it better for our performances. I like a mixture in the cast — working with new people and learning from older actors and their accumulated wisdom." Sheedy is accumulating wisdom of her own. She did not want to become another ingenue in the passing parade. Purposefully, she took a two-year hiatus to study acting in New York and to complete her 12-year compilation of 50 poems, which will be published early next year under the title of *Yesterday I Saw The Sun*. It isn't her first literary triumph. At age 12 she wrote the best-selling children's book *She Was Nice To Me*. "Success as a writer while I was so young, made me want to take a back seat from writing for awhile," she said. "That's how I felt about all the acting I did in my early twenties." "I needed a rest and time to put my thoughts together. To get a perspective. It was scary. I wanted to develop myself as a real actress and writer, even if it meant leaving movies for a time." "I joined a Los Angeles group called Poetry In Motion and I spent time with other poets and writers. I learned a lot and reworked my writing and I studied acting extensively." Right now her ambition is to run in marathons. In her free time she trains regularly, running as much as 15 miles in the mountains near her Malibu home. "I stopped making movies because I was frustrated," she said. "I thought I had gone as far as I could go. I believed there was more I could do as an actress and I needed to develop a lot." "There were a great many natural 'young' roles. It's really hard to sustain that sort of success. I decided to spend some time slowing down and studying."



Madhuri Dixit: level headed girl

Mini Meet: Madhuri Dixit

'I know when to stop'

Madhuri Dixit floats on cloud nine, at the top of the world, superior to everybody. This is what Madhuri's detractors accuse her of. But a brief lunch-time chat with her shows that she is still the level-headed middle-class Marathi girl at heart. Why are other heroines speaking ill of you? Nobody says it to my face. If they are back-biting, what can I do, tell me. I never speak anything behind anyone's back. But right from the start I have been a target of some people. That time they called me skinny. And now they say you are manipulative? If taking care of one's career is to manipulate the world I am doing that everybody does. Why are you not friendly? Where is the time? I am working very hard. Still there are many friends among the acting fraternity who keep regularly in touch. Some actresses may misunderstand me when I am tense or worried on sets. Such things can be sorted out. But then some stars come from lowly families and lack good upbringing. Any hard feelings with Anil (Kapoor)? No, except that he turns trivial matters into prestige issues. Then it becomes difficult to solve. Will you copy other actresses in banning sexy scenes and dresses? Now the censor board is going to be very strict about them. Who am I? If I feel uncomfortable wearing or doing something, I will tell the film makers frankly. But nobody can refuse that glamour and dazzle are necessary for any movie queen. Have you signed on too many films out of insecurity? Oh, oo, I just want to keep working. I balance my own assignments with my films completing. So there are no date hassles and no producer has cause to complain. I complain my capacity and also when to stop. After having gone through all types of exposure and sexy scenes to build up her career, Sonam has suddenly declared a ban on all such things. "Doo I expect me to show one inch more than what a housewife would do," she said proudly. Sonam even refused to do a trick shot for Shashi's *Ajoba* which she thought was suggestive. We can understand her anxiety to please the orthodox family of would-be hubby Rajiv Rai. But why can't she give up films and then get engaged? Kimi had also put out a deadline for giving dates and shooting. After she married Shantanu Shetty she refused to do any film work. Why did she recently sign films, which she knows she could never complete within two months? Today's hit directors are yes-

teryear's flop actors. But they still nurse the itch to act. So they find various tricks for it. Subhash Ghai agreed to do a guest role for Sachin's Marathi film. In turn, Ghai has asked the hothead director to make one film for his banner and also do a role in it. Mahesh Bhatt has acted in Manoj's *Deshwasi* and looks forward for more. Shekhar Kapoor would give his right arm for a big role in any production, which he offers to direct free of charge. Here is a party joke. Amitabh was asked by a scribe what he would like to be in his next birth. Without winking an eyelid Amitabh replied: "A journalist." The scribe felt proud and was about to start hoisting when Amit added: "You did not ask me why. It is to clean up the profession and prove that good journalism can also work." The scribe was dumbfounded. Rajesh Khanna can think up weird stunts to boost his ego and claim that he has millions of unseen fans. So, Rajesh Khanna's Fans Association has been formed at Goregaon, which wishes him a happy birthday through the press. For *Jai Shiv Shanker*, the association's girls and boys became poetic: "The vein-bursting urge is about to fountain from the silent volcano, which in its deadly blaze kept alive, along with soft emotions, genuine talent and wounded intentions of a determined phenomenon. It's not just a film he is back with, it's charisma returning to the blurred screen, a dream of suffering hearts being realised. (Issued in favour of like-minded audience's healthy interest in good cinema)." Phee! We hope the remaining real fans of Rajesh will be able to stomach his verbiage.

POLITENESS

My cousin John was most polite;
He led shortsighted Mrs. Bond,
By accident, one winter's night
Into a village pond.
Her life perhaps he might have saved
But how genteelly he behaved!

Each time she rose and waved to him
He smiled and bowed and doffed his hat;
Thought he, although I cannot swim,
At least I can do that—
And when for the third time she sank
He stood bareheaded on the bank.

Be civil, then, to young and old;
Especially to persons who
Possess a quantity of gold
Which they might leave to you.
The more they have, it seems to me,
The more polite you ought to be.

Harry Graham

Barney's bones are lost all over the garden
How many can you see?

Did you know?

THE last real battle fought on English soil took place on July 6th in 1685, when the Duke of Monmouth failed to raise a rebellion against the new king, James II. He was defeated at Sedgemoor and executed.

As early as 1027 a speedometer was invented in China. A cart was given to the Emperor Jen Chung which measured how many 'li's' (about 0.8 km) had been covered.

The first jigsaw puzzle was made in 1767 and took the form of a map of England with each county being a piece.

One hundred years ago the first FA Cup Final was played at the Kennington Oval.

The first lawnmower was thought of by a cloth worker in Gloucestershire when he saw a machine shearing the nap of the cloth, in 1830.

The first lift was fitted into the Palace of Versailles in France. It was for the exclusive use of King Louis XV and was on the outside of the building, not the inside as most lifts are today.

In 1571 John Lyon, the founder of Harrow School, began an archery competition that took place every year for 200 years.

Happy birthday



Mark Fernandes turned 5 on June 30



Mary Suja Koshy turned 6 on July 2



Lydia Fernandes turned 6 on June 23



Shirley D'Souza turned 3 on June 11



Libya Dias turned 7 on July 4



Nitya Oberoi turned 7 on June 30

Patterns

Addition patterns with Archibald Adder.

$6 + 1 = \square$	$4 + 1 = \square$
$16 + 1 = \square$	$14 + 1 = \square$
$26 + 1 = \square$	$24 + 1 = \square$
$36 + 1 = \square$	$34 + 1 = \square$
$46 + 1 = \square$	$44 + 1 = \square$
$56 + 1 = \square$	$54 + 1 = \square$

Addition patterns with Whizzbang.

$3 + 2 = \square$	$5 + 2 = \square$
$13 + 2 = \square$	$25 + 2 = \square$
$23 + 2 = \square$	$35 + 2 = \square$
$33 + 2 = \square$	$45 + 2 = \square$
$43 + 2 = \square$	$55 + 2 = \square$
$53 + 2 = \square$	$65 + 2 = \square$

Tens and Ones

You may use an abacus or rods to help you.
32 = three tens and two ones.

26 =

16 =

35 =

24 =

19 =

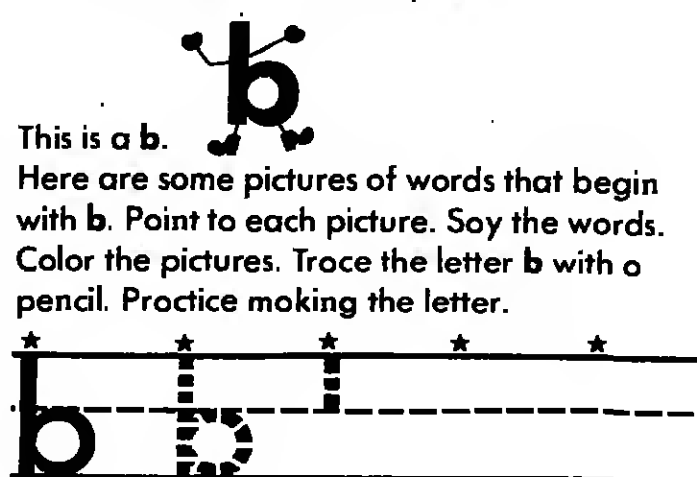
37 =



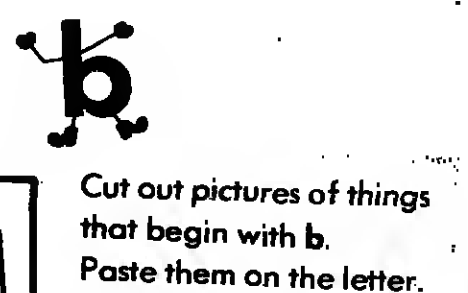
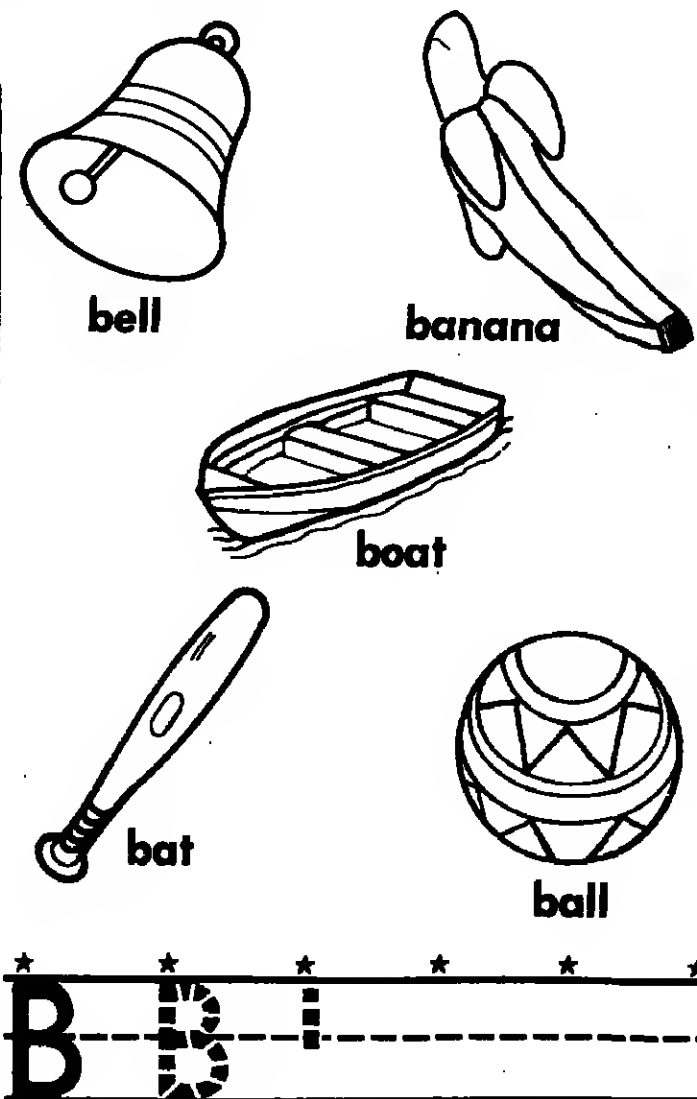
A mouse was running around a sleeping lion's mouth when the lion sprang up and seized him. The lion was about to gulp him down, but the mouse begged to be let free, saying, "If you spare me, I will return the favor." The lion smiled and let him go. Not long after that, the lion was caught by some hunters and tied to a tree with a rope. The mouse, hearing him moan, gnawed through the rope and freed him, saying, "You laughed at me then, thinking you would never get anything in exchange. Now you know that even mice can do a favor."

Moral: You mustn't look down on the little fellow.

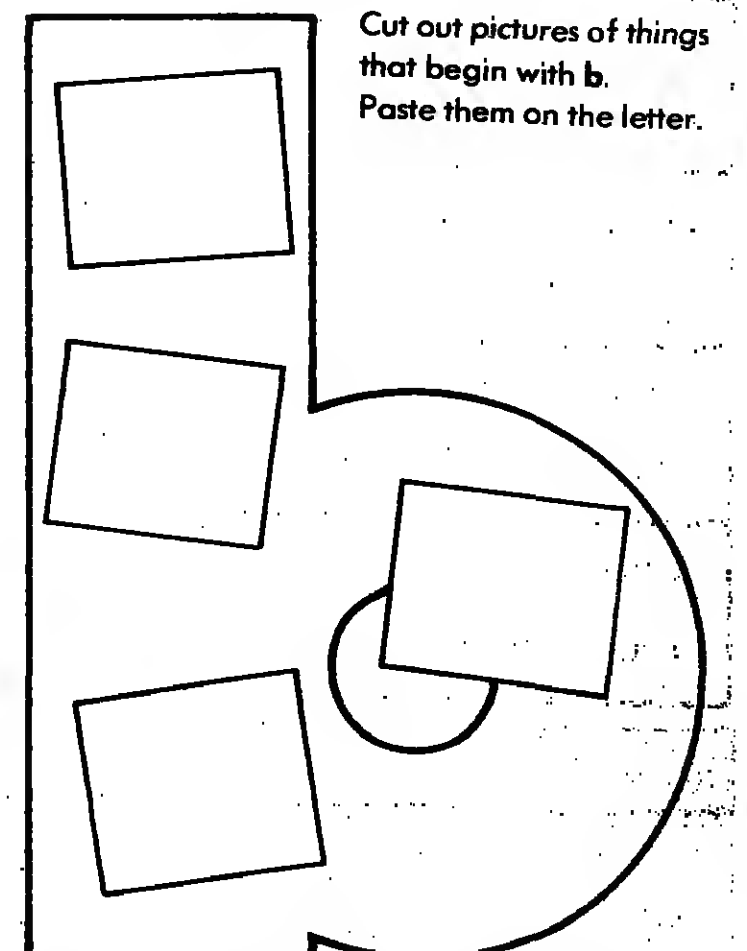
The Lion & the Mouse



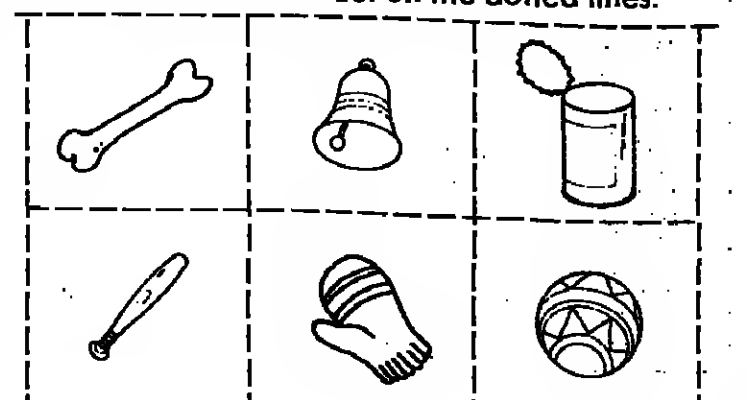
This is a b.
Here are some pictures of words that begin with b. Point to each picture. Say the words. Color the pictures. Trace the letter b with a pencil. Practice making the letter.



Cut out pictures of things that begin with b. Paste them on the letter.



Skills: Sound-letter association and letter-sound discrimination. Cut on the dotted lines.



Dear Junior readers,
Happy Eid. The Junior Times did not appear last Tuesday, so do not be disappointed if your birthday greetings are belated.
If you are going to spend most of your summer in Kuwait, there are many places you can visit. The Entertainment City and the

seafront are of course the most popular, but Kuwait is also rich in parks, museums, and restaurants.
In almost each district in Kuwait, there is at least one park. The greenery and fresh air make a lovely change from staying indoors, or playing downstairs within building limits.

Museums have suitable daily opening hours. When it is too hot to stay outside, you can take a trip to one of the richly decorated museums and learn about new things, whether scientific, historical or ethnical.
Restaurants are a more expensive way of spending time. If you are really bored, gather up a few friends and go and eat out.

Do not eat in a hurry then leave. Sit down and enjoy both the food and the company of your friends.

Try to spend your time usefully and do not repeat the same outing over and over again. This will make it boring. Remember, variety is the spice of life.

Manal.

On the sea

Using the code to help you, finish the picture.



What am I?

Read the two sentences on the left. Then underline one of the two numbered sentences on the right that is the correct answer.

I am made of wood.	1. I am a	
I go up and down.	2. I am a	
I make noise.	1. I am a	
I am small.	2. I am a	
I am round.	1. I am a	
I have a hole.	2. I am a	
I have a picture.	1. I am a	
I go on and off.	2. I am a	
I have wings.	1. I am a	
I can fly.	2. I am an	
I have legs.	1. I am a	
I cannot walk.	2. I am a	

My Mother

MY mother is very beautiful and cute. She is never sad and is always happy with her bright smiling face. My mother is very calm and quite in nature. She has black hair and a slim figure.

My mother has a very good personality. Her manners, behaviour and etiquette are always very good towards other people. She is very clean with whatever she does. She can cook delicious continental dishes. She can also sew very well.

My mother is very lively and energetic. Her leisure activities are reading novels, watching art films, sewing and decorating the house. She also loves songs.

One day my school bus was late. My mother was very worried. When I came back home, I saw her eyes full of tears.

She is my mother. She is like my friend. I love her. I

love her very much. I think she is the best mother in the world.

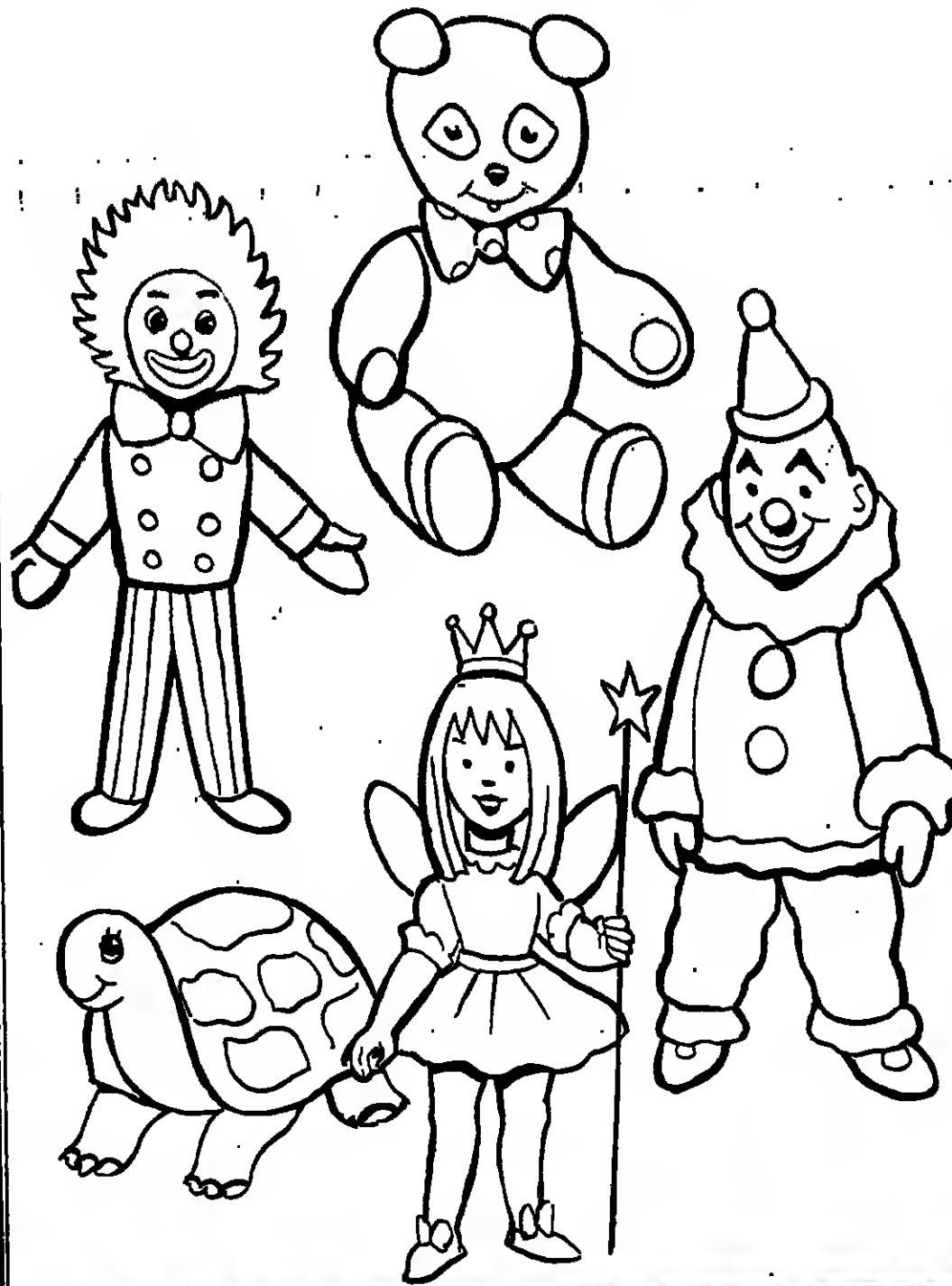
Emily Hassain (Dahamoni) Senior 1
Kuwait English School

Stories for your work may be sent to:

Your Work,
Junior Times,
Arab Times,
P.O. Box 2270
13023 Safat Kuwait



Colouring time



SNOWFLAKES

"No cloud above, no earth below —
A universe of sky and snow."
J.G. Whittier Snow-Bound, 1866

AIR	DOWN	INDIVIDUALLY	RATE	SLIDE
AREAS	DRIFT	INTRICATE	SCENIC	SNOWMAN
BEAUTY	FANTASY	MAKE	SCIENTISTS	SYMMETRY
CLOUDS	FALLING	MILLIONS	SCULPTED	TEMPERATURE
COVERS	FLAKES	NEEDLES	SHAPE	TYPE
CRYSTALS	FLUFFY	PACKED	SILENT	WIND-DRIVEN
DEEP	HEXAGON	PANES	SIX-SIDED	
DETAIL	HUMIDITY	PATTERN	SKI	
DEVELOP	ICE	PILE	SKIS	

S T D Y R T E M M Y S C N S T
I I E D I L S N G I F E H E Y
C E E M I I O N X N E F N K P
L H P A P G N S O D I N U A E
O N T C A E I T L I E L C L P
U E H X R D R E R V L K L F F
D R E U E Y S A I I E L X A Y
S H T D M S S R T D C R I D F
C A C P R I D T E U N A E M Y
E F E E A D D V A A R T T S T
N D V R N T E I M L P E I E U
I O R I A L T W T L S L R I A
C L W I O S O E U Y E M A K E
E L I P F N K C R N W O D S B
E P A H S T S I T N E I C S Y

It was the Greeks, not the Scottish as you would think, who invented the bagpipes. They called them symphonica and have changed very little since those ancient times.

The Romans built an aqueduct in 110 BC to bring water to the town of Segovia in Spain. It is still in use today two thousand years later.

The famous artist in Victorian times, Sir Edwin Landseer, first painted a St Bernard dog with a barrel of brandy hanging around its neck. Since then there have been hundreds of pictures showing similar small dogs used to revive the mountaineers that such dogs were trained to rescue. But St Bernards do not have, and never have had, these casks around their necks.

The first council houses were built in ancient Rome, after the population of that city had risen dramatically for three years.

John Gilbert acted in his last film, The Captain Hates the Sea in 1934. He was at the peak of his career as a star of silent films, one of the greatest cinema attractions of his time. He stopped acting because 'talkies', or the first films with speech, showed the public that his voice did not match his very masculine reputation. His voice shocked the public with its squeakiness.

Louis Braille first lost the sight of one eye when blinded by a carpenter's tool in his father's carpentry workshop when he was only three years old. He lost the use of the other soon after. He began teaching the blind, and invented an alphabet which you felt with your fingers rather than read with the eyes. He died before knowing how grateful millions of blind people were for this way of reading which became so widely used.

Archaeological evidence has shown that the first people to live in America came from the area of the Soviet Union which is called Siberia.

The first people to play with rubber balls were the Maya Indians, who lived in Central America nearly one thousand years ago.

Nicholas Cugnot has the distinction of not only being the first motorist, but also of being the first person to be put in prison for a traffic offence. He drove his steam-powered tractor at a top speed of six and half kilometres an hour into a stone wall.

There is a tradition in Sweden that you can look into the future on the last day of each year. Molten lead is poured into water on New Year's Eve and the shapes it forms foretell what will happen in the year ahead.

The herb fennel was first used as a medicine in the Far East centuries ago. Ancient oriental doctors used it to treat snake bites.

Proverb: 'Self-preservation is the first law of nature.' This has developed into the phrase we use today 'survival of the fittest'.

The earliest form of boat was a dug-out canoe which was made from a hollowed tree trunk. There were first made over eight thousand years ago. The remains of one 16 metres long have been found, which is pretty big for a canoe.

In the game of chess the number of variations in the first four moves alone is 318,979,564,000.

Big Ben is not the name of the clock tower in the Houses of Parliament; it is the name of the bell inside. It was first called Big Ben after a

politician in the eighteenth century who weighed 158 kilograms. His name was Ben Hall.

The first use for Coca-Cola was as a medicine. It was not successful until hobbles were put into it by mistake. The 'cure-all' became merely a refreshing drink, as such almost two hundred million bottles of it are bought all over the world.

One of the last survivors of the Prehistoric age is the crocodile. It is probably the nearest relative to the Tyrannosaurus rex left on earth. The jaws of a crocodile are in fact so weak that a man can hold them open very easily. So now you know what to do when attacked by a crocodile!

The first stethoscopes, with which doctors listen to your heart beat, were carried under doctor's top hats.

EVENTS



Sean Connery switched roles

By Brian Hollis

TOM CLANCY'S hugely popular espionage novel *The Hunt for Red October* has now been given the movie treatment, with Sean Connery and Alec Baldwin in the leading roles. Connery is a renegade Soviet captain, in charge of their latest and most sophisticated strike submarine. He decides to defect to America to ensure that this apocalyptic weapon will never be used. The Americans, of course, think that his defection across the Atlantic is an act of war, and only the counsel of a canny young American naval analyst (Alec Baldwin) convinces them to wait and see if an attack or a surrender is in the works. Meanwhile, subs, boats and

Sean Connery's red alert!

helicopters of both superpowers scour the ocean for the renegade vessel hoping to sink or capture it.

This mostly undersea drama takes place during a two- to three-day period. Director John McTiernan (*Die Hard*) demonstrates that it is possible to combine psychological tension with high-tech special effects, creating an increasingly desperate claustrophobic atmosphere. There is a minimum of fighting, explosions and violence, and the suspense is due to the characters' inner desperation and fast-paced editing, which keep the story moving. The first half hour is a little obscure, but as the pace quickens and the tension mounts, a gripping drama begins to unfold.

Joe Versus The Volcano is Tom Hanks' latest outing, this time with Meg Tilly playing three different girlfriends. Hanks, likeable as ever, stars as Joe Banks, a hypochondriac smitten with perhaps the world's worst job who is told by his doctor that he has a fatal braincloud. When an eccentric

millionaire (Lloyd Bridges) offers him a chance to leave life in style, Joe agrees. In exchange for the chance to spend the last month of his life with everything money can buy, Joe will ship himself off to the South Pacific and leap into a fiery volcano to appease the natives' gods and thus secure for the millionaire the rights to the island's rich mineral deposits. He is escorted on his sea voyage by the millionaire's tough daughter (Meg Ryan) with whom he predictably falls in love.

The whole movie is set up as a fairy tale, and would have been perfectly plausible as such. But towards the end, 'Joe' runs out of steam. The comedy becomes more strained as the plot wears thin. Alas, the ending is pure Hollywood contrivance. Still, in spite of gaping holes in logic and credibility, the film at least gets in some good laughs that will please Hanks fans and ensure good rental in the video shops.

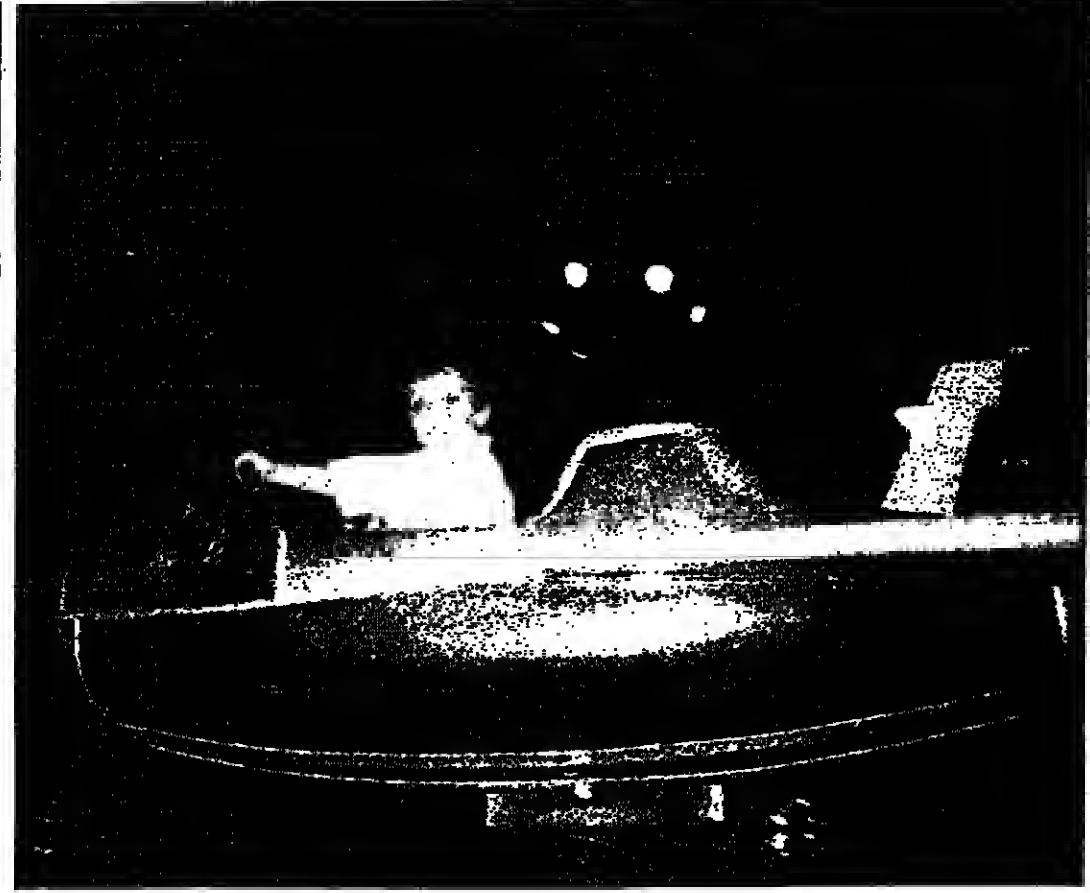
Director Percy Adlon is well for his oddball movies *Sugar Baby*, and *Bagdad Cafe*, both of

which star rotund German actress Marianne Sägebrecht. The same team is back again for a third time in *Rosalie Goes Shopping*, with Sägebrecht again living in America, this time as the scheming immigrant mother who wants nothing but the best for her family. She has her philosophy on the old simple dictum: 'If I owe the banks \$100,000, it's my problem'. If I owe them \$1,000,000, it becomes their problem'. When local traders stop giving her credit, she moves on through a series of credit cards until they also are blocked (although not before daughter has received her new IBM PC, and would-be chef son has prepared a top gourmet meal). When her crop sprayer husband totals the light aircraft which he uses for work, it's going to take all of Marianne's ingenuity to secure a replacement for him. Although, perhaps not as good as *Bagdad Cafe*, 'Rosalie' does have its moments, and provides another cynical look at one aspect of American life.

Dudley Moore co-stars with

Darryl Hannah in *Crazy People* a new comedy which mixes the world of advertising with the inmates of an insane asylum. Moore is a high flying advertising copywriter with marital problems who suddenly decides that he is fed up of writing plain copy of the 'our cigarettes may kill you, but at least they taste good' variety. He is carted off to the insane asylum, but not before his ads are accidentally sent for printing. At the asylum he meets Darryl Hannah and begins to enjoy himself, so when his ads are a huge commercial success, and the agency beg him to come back to work, he procrastinates, and enlists the help of the other crazies to create a series of ad campaigns which of course are also wildly successful. The plot is by no means new, and the jokes are mainly pretty worn, but as lighthearted entertainment, *Crazy People* is quite palatable.

The above movies are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Nana, Salsiya, Video Club, Salsiya.



High-flier

Flying high during the Eid Al Adha festivities is this young 'pilot' who took to the skies in an entertainment park in Kuwait. A large number of people were spotted on beaches, in parks and in hotels to cool down on a hot summer's day and enjoy the prolonged holiday. (Arab Times photo)



Vincent De Souza, the Man of the Year, receiving the award from Augie Alphonso of the Weekend Club.



Dina Modak, the Red and Black Queen (ranked by first runner-up, Suad Al Gharibah, second runner-up, Sylvia Rangell and third runner-up, Valencia Sylvia Daniel).



Some of the participants.

Red and Black Nite Vincent is 'Man of the Year'

A RIOT of colour, glitter and gaiety marked the "Red & Black Nite" organised by the Weekend Club on the first day of Eid Al Adha at the Sheikhha Ballroom of the Regency Palace Hotel.

Despite the huge number of people travelling out of Kuwait for holidays, the response to the Red & Black Nite was overwhelming. Several late comers had to be turned away. The success of the show, the organisers said was due to the colour/costume theme and music.

The highlight of the evening was the selection and crowning of the "Red & Black Queen." Over 40 girls participated bedecked in confections of red and black giving the parade the air of a Spanish fiesta. While the semi-finalists were judged by a panel of seven judges, the final choice was made by ballots of each and every guest present at the show. The idea worked, the choice of beauties was certainly popular, judging by the deafening applause that greeted Dina Modak, an Indian student at the New English School. When she was crowned the Red and Black Queen, fourteen year old Dina said her hobbies are dancing, reading, travelling and meeting people. She wants to be a chemist. Dina received a 22 carat gold necklace, courtesy Al Othman

Jewellers, the top prize. Suad Al Gharibah, a charming Kuwaiti Secretary, was the first runner-up and Sylvia Rangell, a Goan secretary, was chosen the second runner-up. Valencia Sylvia Daniel, an Indian student who came a close fourth, was declared the third runner-up by the organisers.

The "Man of the Year" award, instituted this year is to be awarded annually to any Indian resident of Kuwait who has made the most significant contribution towards the welfare of his compatriots in any field such as social service, education, sports, music, etc. This year's recipient was Vincent De Souza, a prominent Goan who has spent several years in Kuwait taking up such causes as direct flights and better baggage allowance for Goans. He was one of the founding fathers of the New Indian School of Kuwait and the man behind the realization of an apex body of Goans recently formed as The Goan Welfare Society. Announcing the award, Francis Fernandes of the Weekend Club said that despite his many services, De Souza had been the target of severe criticism and hardly anybody had stood up to give him due credit. The Weekend Club has finally recognised the man. The award was presented by Augie Alphonso of the Weekend Club. De Souza, in

a voice choked with emotion, said that he was taken by surprise and modestly admitted that he did not deserve the honour but accepted it and thanked The Weekend Club.

The Top Ranks with Adolf at the mike provided a selection of heart-throbbing rock sounds that sent the mainly young crowd wild with dancing fever and the Stepping Stones with Aggie at the mike presented a choice of cha cha, waltz, twist and jivesounds. Lancelot McGie ("Lancy" to his many admirers), added spice to the delightful evening with his humorous chatter.

Arah Times staff Kevin de Souza adds: The show was certainly an unqualified success except for a couple of minor irritants like the tendency of the dancing floor to crack up into a crazy quilt pattern which made navigation a trifle hazardous.

The choice of Red and Black Queen by popular vote did not go down well with all. While there is always an element of controversy in contests like these, final selection by ballot can hardly be a substitute for the careful appraisal of a panel of experienced, mature judges.

The show, which ended way past dawn, was sponsored by Rothmans International.

WHAT'S ON

Social

Scrabble tournament
July 26: Due to incoming ladies' demand, the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Fikeck) will sponsor an all female scrabble tournament. It will be held at the Kabayan Restaurant.
The tournament is open to all Filipinas in Kuwait. It will be conducted in two stages.
Registration is now open at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sunday, July 15, 1990. Trophies and valuable gift items await the winners. For more information call 2402405 Liz.

Mushaira
July 26: A mushaira (an evening of Urdu poetry) will be held at the home of Tahir Kaifi. All Urdu poets are invited to take part. Start: 10 pm sharp.

L.I.L.
July 9: L.I.L. will be holding their monthly big meeting on Monday, at Sheraton Hotel, Ballroom A, for a social evening, from 7 to 10 pm. For details contact Julie. Tele: 3391150.

Pakistan Embassy
The Embassy of Pakistan will remain closed from July 2 to July 7 on the occasion of Eid Al Adha. Normal working will resume on July 7, according to an embassy press release.

Kapilku

July 19: Kapilku awards certificates of attendance to those who attended tailoring, bookkeeping, basic accounts and basic computer courses. The ceremony will be held at Al Aralya Restaurant, 8 pm. Philippine Ambassador Mauryag Mohammad Tamano will be the chief guest. Buffet dinner, KD 3 per person. Proceeds will go towards the school fund.

Those who attended self-improvement classes are asked to contact Sarah Macarimbang. Tel: 4839009, 4839889, 4843447.

Hotels

At the Meridien
La Brasserie
Thai Corner: Saturday night.
Cowboy Night: Every Sunday, with live country music.
Chinese Corner: Monday night feature.
Greek Taverna: Mediterranean magic with bousouki music.
Indonesian corner: on Wednesdays: food prepared in front of you.
Jazz Night: New Orleans atmosphere on Thursday night.
Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet: family day.
Versailles: Business lunch: and a la carte dinner.

At Ramada Al Salam
Al Bandar Coffee Shop: Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner: also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.
Al Mawardi Open-Air Cafe: open from 6 pm to midnight.
Al Gandouli Grill Garden: open after 6 pm; grilled food.
Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm, ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.

At the International
Failaka: situated on the 19th floor, overlooking the coastline, it offers international cuisine: live entertainment in the evenings. Closed on Fridays.
La Palma: offers buffet as well as a la carte. Family style brunch on Fridays.
Ket: offers Japanese dining in an oriental atmosphere.
La Patisserie: selection of snacks; pianist in the evenings.
Al Waha: ice cream promotion featuring different flavours, until August 1990.

At the Messilah Beach
Al Mubarakiah: open around the clock: seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm: Fridays - Middle Eastern cuisine.
Al Jawharah: Thursday special - special menu: music by Rainbow Band.
Al Berdounah: BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

At the Plaza:
Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.
Lolouwah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks.
Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

At the Holiday Inn
Eid Schedule:
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop: luncheon buffet as well as a la carte menu: 12 noon to 3.30 pm. Dinner - 6.30 pm to midnight.
Al Dana Restaurant: family buffet lunch with Disney cartoon characters to entertain children. Lunch: 12 noon to 3.30 pm; dinner: 6.30 pm to midnight. Evening entertainment by Michael and Elaine.
Al Andalus Night Club: buffet dinner - 9 pm to 2 am; oriental hand Serenades.
Lobby Cafe: 10 am to midnight: refreshments and take-away counter.
Swimming Pool: mini barbecue daily from 12 noon to 4 pm during the Eid holidays.

At the SAS
Bistro: Sunday/Wednesday - pasta night; Italian music. Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine: lunch and dinner.
Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience: charcoal grilled food, plus mezzeh buffet.
Clock: snack bar - burgers, french fries, etc.

At the Sheraton
Al Hamba: luncheon buffet and daily Arabic Night with music by the Ramous Ali Amic Band.
Ricardo: lunch and dinner featuring pastis dishes: evening entertainment by Duo Franca and Regina.
Hunt Room: Special lunch and dinner for Eid Al Adha: Duo Fantasy Serenade.
Le Tarbouche: buffet luncheon and dinner through Eid holidays: entertainment by out player.

Goan drama
Sept 21: Goan comedy king Bah Prince Jacob will present the comedy "Perigum" (announcement) at Indian Arts Circle. The programme will be organised by Menino de Sanvordem. For details call Fernandes: 2435685; 2435688.

Sur Sangeet
July 19: A musical evening will be presented by Sur Sangeet group to say farewell to outgoing Indian Second Secretary S.M. Mathur. Singers participating in the show include Valencia, Rosebud, Laxmi, Charlie, Shahnawaz Karim.

Natya Bharati
Natya Bharati calls amateur dramatists to audition for their fourth Hindi production entitled "Badi Buaji" (The Big Aunt), a full-length comedy which will be performed in mid-October. Required a female lead, young smart lady, past stage experience would be an asset, two supporting actresses, character actors, a middle-aged man with a good personality and two young men in their early 30s. Genuinely interested people who plan to stay in Kuwait during summer holidays can contact 4880965 or 5623810 after 1.30 pm or 3721545 after 8.30 am for further details.

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PRAYERS

Fajr	3.19 am
Zuhr	11.52
Asr	3.26 pm
Maghreb	6.51
Isha	8.23
FRIDAY	
Fajr	3.20 am
Friday Prayer	11.53
Zuhr	3.27 pm
Asr	6.51
Maghreb	8.23
Isha	8.23

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1	KTV 2
9.00 Holy Quran	12.00 News Summary
9.15 Cartoons	12.05 World News via Satellite
9.45 Luna Park	12.25 Holy Quran/Closedown
10.00 Songs and Music	
10.15 Lucan: English feature film	
12.00 English serial	6.00 Holy Quran
1.00 News Summary	6.10 Cartoons
1.05 World News via Satellite	6.30 My Secret Identity: Andrew and his friend learn to drive motorcycles. And against his friend's advice, Andrew uses his secret powers.
1.30 Al Tanateef: Gulf serial, featuring Ghannim Salihi, Huda Hussein	7.00 Star Trek: "Where Silence Has Lease". Adventures in outerspace promise great entertainment!
2.30 Lassie: English feature film	7.00 News in English
3.30 Adventures: cartoons	8.40 Adventurer: Jack Vincent is still on the run and moves to Australia and plans to take over a foreign vessel.
4.00 Liqa Al Khamis: weekly roundup of local news	9.30 "Star" Daniels' Magic Show: Daniels' returns with a bagful of tricks
5.30 Cartoons	10.30 Bill Cosby Show: Cliff advises his family not to eat fatty food before going to bed but does not practise it himself. Comedy Starring: Bill Cosby, Phylcia Rashad.
6.00 Alaf Lalla Wa	10.30 Thursday Night Movie: "Breaking Point." Germans capture an American major and try to extract war secrets from him.
6.30 English serial: part 3	12.00 News in Brief
7.30 Songs	12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown
8.00 With Islam	
8.30 From People's Lives	
9.00 News in Arabic	
9.45 Al Arhaab: Arabic feature film, starring Nadia Al Jundi, Farouk Fishawi, Salah Qabeel.	
12.00 Late Night Entertainment	
1.30 News Summary	
1.35 World News via Satellite	
1.50 Holy Quran/Closedown	
FRIDAY	
9.00 Holy Quran	6.00 Holy Quran
9.25 Cartoons	6.10 Popeye and Son: cartoons
9.50 Ta'leem Kharij Al Madrasah: part 4	6.30 Family Feature Film: the adventures of a young boy and his divorced mother.
10.15 Songs	8.00 News in English
10.30 Al Rahlah: children's serial, starring Safa Al Subei, Ahmad Abdul Waris	8.40 Breaking Away: a look at what's on in Kuwait.
11.00 Ihtahaal Deeni: religious programme	8.50 T & T: "Hostage." Eight people are taken hostage in a supermarket robbery. Starring: Mr. T.
11.15 Friday Prayer: live from Great Mosque	9.15 Globe TV: A Ticket to the World: from Georgia to Mexico, this programme explores various facets of life around the world.
12.30 Colours: presented by Fatima Abdul Wahab.	10.00 Doctor, Doctor: a new comedy featuring mishaps in a clinic.
1.00 News Summary	10.30 The Men: friendship grows between four friends - Steven, Paul, Charlie and Danny.
1.05 World News via Satellite	11.30 News in Brief
1.25 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwali Sharawi.	11.35 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown
2.00 Halaqaat Tamteeliya: "Tanateef". Starring: Ghannim Salihi, Huda Hussein, Abdul Aziz Al Jassim.	
3.30 Kinara: Hindi feature film	
6.00 Cultural programme	
7.30 Kuwait In a Week	
8.00 Multaki Al Usrah: cultural programme	
8.45 Hadith Usbooh: religious programme	
9.00 News in Arabic	
9.45 Raqaen La Yanaam: Arabic serial: featuring Ahmad Mazhar, Samiya Al Alfi, Nawal Abul Futouh	
10.45 Television Magazine: presented by Rasha Magdi.	

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus	Al Fahahel
Jazira Al Shitan (Arabic)	Ranganagar Basba (Bengali)
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra	Al Jahra
Al Sahm	Hanafi Al Abahahu (Arabic)
Arabic play	Grauda
Al Hama	Arabic play
Troma's War	Sulabikhat
Drive-In	The Big Heat
Jazira Al Shitan (Arabic)	Al Jleeb
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra	Oru Vadakkan Veera Gadh
Al Firdous	(Malayalam)
Kroth (Hindi)	Starring: Mammootty
Starring: Amrita Singh,	Ahmad Drive-In
Sunny Deol	Al Nissab Wal Kalb
Al Fahahel	(Arabic)
Taaqatwar (Hindi)	

مركز المدينة



Italian goalie Walter Zenga reacts after Schillaci's goal. (Reuter wirephoto)



Maradona (left) tries to keep Italian captain Giuseppe Bergomi away. (Reuter wirephoto)



Argentina's Oscar Ruggeri (right) tries to kick the ball past Zenga. (Reuter wirephoto)

Italy struggles to accept World Cup semifinal defeat

Maradona & Co. spoil party for home team's fans

NAPLES, July 4, (Reuter): Italy's dumbstruck players and fans woke today still puzzling how they failed to reach the World Cup final despite not losing a game in regular time.

The players cried in the dressing room after losing to Argentina in a penalty shoot-out last night when their semifinal ended in a 1-1 draw after extra time.

Fans suffered in silence, stunned that Argentine captain Diego Maradona, a hero in Naples for helping the local club side lift two League titles, had spoiled their party.

The streets of Italian cities, jammed with wildly celebrating fans after the home team's every victory, were eerily empty after the defeat in Napoli's San Paolo stadium.

World Cup organisers went ahead with a planned late-night fireworks display from a boat in the Bay of Naples. But few Italians, never doubting their side would win the trophy for a record fourth time, stayed up to watch.

Italy had won every match up to the semifinals and had not conceded a goal.

Defending champions Argentina, however, were beaten by a Cameroon team reduced to nine men in their opening match, survived the group stage only as one of the best third-placed finishers and then scraped through with a penalty shoot-out win over Yugoslavia in the quarter-finals.

"We are very angry, above all to see a team like Argentina get to the final," said midfielder Nicola Berti who did not play in yesterday's match.

"I have to say they played well but it was the only time they did so in the finals. Obviously the Argentines have a lot of good luck - they get to the final and nobody knows how."

Sicilian striker Salvatore Schillaci, whose name was on every Italian's lips after his five goals in six matches, was inconsolable.

"My five goals don't count," said Schillaci, who put Italy 1-0 ahead in the 18th minute before Argentina's Claudio Caniggia

headed in the equaliser in the 68th.

"It will need a lot of time to forget this defeat," said Schillaci, who did not take part in the penalty shoot-out after suffering a groin strain during the goalless extra time.

Goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea, who stepped in after Nery Pumpido broke his leg in the first round, became Argentina's hero by saving the final two penalties from midfielder Roberto Donadoni and substitute striker Aldo Serena.

Italian coach Azeglio Vicini, whose side have lost only six times since he took charge four years ago, is bound to face an inquiry over why he changed the winning attacking line-up, starting with Gianluca Vialli instead of Baggio.

But Vialli, who missed three matches at the finals after a thigh injury, had a good game, setting up several chances for Schillaci. The blame, if any, must lie elsewhere.

Schillaci, over-eager for another goal, found himself time and again falling into Argentina's offside trap and Italy's defence, rock solid through the early part of the finals, was for once caught napping by Caniggia's goal.

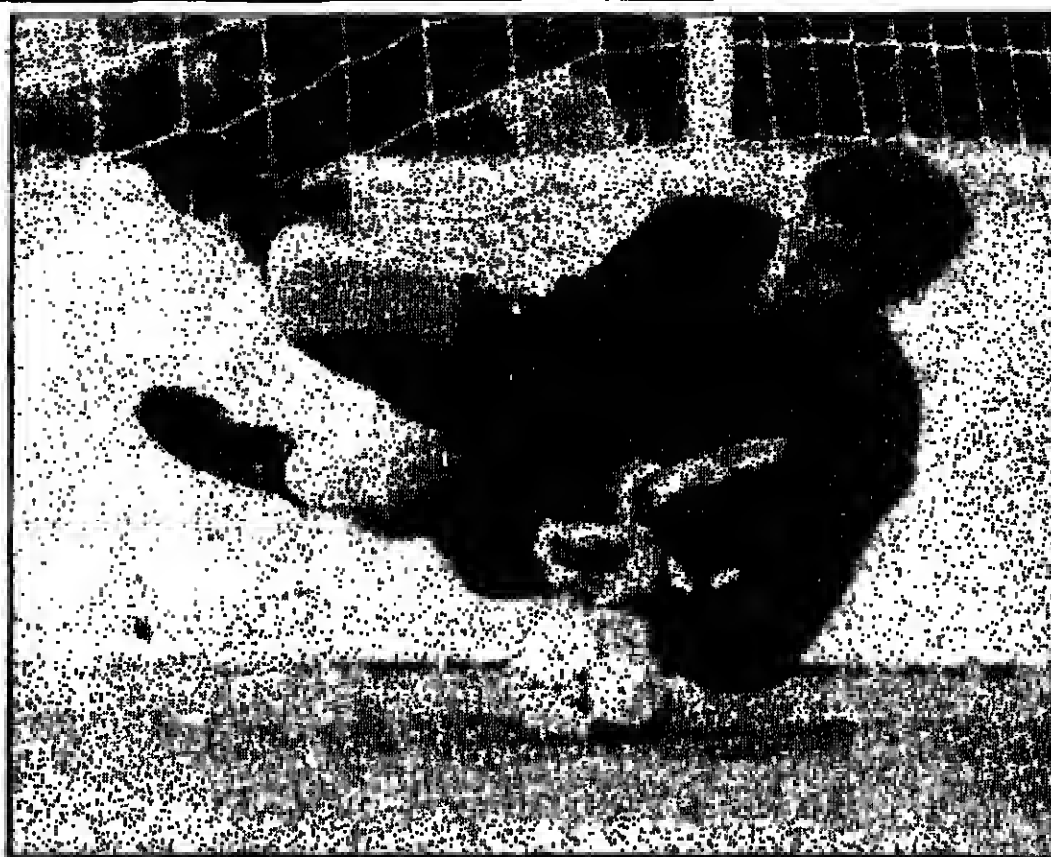
For goalkeeper Walter Zenga there was at least the consolation of two World Cup records.

He kept a clean sheet at the finals for 517 minutes, 16 minutes longer than the all-time best set by England's Peter Shilton over the 1982 and 1986 finals and 60 minutes longer than the previous best for one edition of the World Cup, set by Brazil's Leao in 1978.

But Zenga, like most of the losing team, did not have the heart to discuss such matters as the players packed up to move back to their base at Marino, near Rome, before going to Bari for the third-place playoff on Saturday.

Instead Roberto Mancini, who did not play yesterday, summed up the feeling of the squad.

"The third-place playoff doesn't count for anything - only the final counts," he said.



Sergio Goycochea makes a diving save on a penalty by Aldo Serena. (Reuter wirephoto)

Caniggia ruled out of final

Argentina confound critics

NAPLES, July 4, (Reuter): Argentina, with Diego Maradona more a symbol than a match-winner, confounded their critics yesterday to reach their second successive World Cup final by beating Italy in a penalty shoot-out.

"I preferred our victory in 1986, but this is also sweet after so much suffering," Maradona said. "But it was all much clearer in '86. We never had to go into extra time."

Maradona said Argentina were equal to Italy. "It was a miracle against Brazil," he said. "Today it wasn't."

Coach Carlos Bilardo added: "After we beat Brazil, I knew we could reach the final."

Argentina upset traditional rivals Brazil in the second round despite being outplayed for long spells.

Claudio Caniggia, who struck Argentina's equaliser against Italy, ruled himself out of the final when he received his second booking of the tournament for handball.

Argentina will be down to just three Mexico veterans for Sunday's final against the winners of today's semifinal between England and West Germany in Turin.

Maradona, Jorge Burruchaga and Oscar Ruggeri have only been booked once so far in the tournament, while Julio Olarticoechea and Sergio Batista earned their second yellow cards against Italy and Ricardo Giusti was sent off.

"I dreamt of an Argentina-England final," Maradona said. "I'll root for England, but Matthaus and Klinsmann will have other ideas."

Maradona, above all other teams, has always feared West Germany, beaten 3-2 by Argentina in the 1986 final in Mexico.



Caniggia raises his arm in jubilation after scoring the equaliser. (Reuter wirephoto)

Maradona offered blank cheque

TOKYO, July 4, (Reuter): If Diego Maradona tires of the soccer wars after leading Argentina into Sunday's World Cup final against either West Germany or England, he may be able to opt for luxurious semi-retirement in Japan.

A Japanese newspaper today said a Tokyo company was offering Maradona, considered by many to be the premier player in world soccer, a blank cheque to play for its own club side.

The daily Nikka Sports reported that P.J.M. Japan, a distributor of educational supplies, had already provided Maradona's agent with a contract, leaving the terms of payment blank. The company runs a team called the P.J.M. Futures.

A company official, however, said he knew of no offer to Maradona. He said he had heard a

rumour in the club that P.J.M. was trying to bring Maradona to Japan. Maradona, 29, is currently under contract to the Italian club Napoli. The contract expires in 1992.

The company official said that the president of P.J.M. Japan was now in Italy, along with his soccer club manager.

Nikkan Sports quoted company president Hori Arita as saying: "I'm not worried about the question of money. I am ready to pay over two billion yen (\$13 million) to get Maradona from Napoli and to give him as much salary as he wants."

Juventus paid nearly \$14 million to get Italian star Roberto Baggio from Fiorentina in May, so far the most expensive deal in soccer history. Napoli spent \$7.5 million to get Maradona from Barcelona in 1984.

Lazaroni treated like a delinquent

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 4, (Reuter): Brazilian soccer coach Sebastiao Lazaroni said yesterday he has been made to feel like a criminal delinquent since his side's defeat by Argentina in the World Cup.

"I never thought that football could change people's ideas so much," he said commenting on the hostility he met after Brazil's second-round defeat.

"I feel like a delinquent who has just committed a crime. Everybody speaks about Lazaroni with anger, forgetting that I am a man like any other citizen," he said as he met the media for the first time since the defeat.

Lazaroni returned home last Wednesday but slipped out of Rio airport through a side-door to avoid meeting reporters.

Since then he has remained locked in his flat with his family in the beachside suburb of Leme, while the press has kept a constant vigil outside the building.

Although good-humoured, Lazaroni frustrated the media again yesterday, merely repeating comments he made in Italy. "It was the same discourse as always," one journalist complained.

As before, he defended his 3-5-2 formation which was widely criticised in Brazil as too defensive.

And he also blamed his side's 1-0 defeat on poor finishing.

"It was the same scheme which won us the South American championship for the first time in 40 years and the same scheme with which we beat Italy in Bologna last year," he said.

"I never said that I wanted Brazil to play ugly football. I said the team had to play competitive football, which does not necessarily mean ugly or pretty football," he said.



Diego Maradona screams with joy after converting his penalty kick. (Reuter wirephoto)

Give World Cup fines to Iranian victims: Klinsmann

ERBA, Italy, July 4, (Reuter): West German striker Juergen Klinsmann has proposed donating the proceeds from fines on World Cup players to earthquake victims in Iran.

Klinsmann said: "There was the earthquake tragedy in Iran and football didn't lift a finger to have its voice heard."

"The money from fines in this World Cup, paid by us players, trainers and federations, should be handed over by Fifa to the poor Iranian people devastated by the earthquake."

"Football must make its voice heard to help the suffering of humanity."

An earthquake in northwestern Iran last month killed 50,000 people and devastated wide areas.

Support

Fifa spokesman Andreas Herren said money from World Cup fines was earmarked to support the 'fair play' campaign in soccer.

It was used for promotional material and as prizes for players judged to have shown outstanding fair play. "You should not think it is being wasted on silly things," he said.

Herren said soccer's world governing body had donated money to earthquake victims in Mexico in 1986 and would consider Klinsmann's idea if it was proposed to Fifa.

But he said so far he had seen no formal request. World Cup players have been fined 20,000 Swiss francs (\$14,300) for being sent off and lesser amounts for other offences.

Shopowners disappointed

FLORENCE, Italy, July 4, (AP): Disappointed Florence shopowners who had expected a bountiful June because of the World Cup soccer tournament have started their summer sales a month early in an effort to sell the merchandise on overstocked shelves.

Clothing stores have signs in the windows offering discounts of up to 50 per cent. The Florence merchants association said shops had been hurt by the "World Cup failure." It said sales last month were 30 to 40 per cent lower than normal.

Hotel owners in the city also are complaining that the world Cup failed to generate the huge numbers of tourists that had been predicted.

The hotel owners associations said bookings have dropped off by 20 to 30 per cent and by as much as 40 per cent in three star hotels.



Schillaci (left) screams in jubilation after scoring and later dejectedly walks down a ramp after his team's defeat. (Reuter wirephoto)



Argentina's Ricardo Giusti (centre) argues with the referee. (Reuter wirephoto)



Carlos Bilardo celebrates his team's win. (Reuter wirephoto)



Goycochea (right) and Maradona celebrate. (Reuter wirephoto)



Teammates lift Goycochea after Serena's penalty. (Reuter wirephoto)



Argentina's Ricardo Giusti (centre) argues with the referee. (Reuter wirephoto)

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Stewart stops Howe in seventh round

MONTICELLO, New York, July 4. (UPI) Heavyweight contender Alex Stewart, tuning up for a scheduled Sept. 22 bout against Mike Tyson, last night stopped Jamie Howe at 0:32 of the seventh round of a one-sided bout.

Stewart (223 lbs), improved to 26-1 with 26 knockouts while dropping

Howe, 215-1/2 (198 kg), to 15-12. Stewart decked Howe in the fifth round of the scheduled 10-round bout and Howe's face was covered with blood pouring from his nose from the fourth round on. After stunning Howe with a big right to the head late in the fourth round, Stewart dropped his game opponent

with a right to the head followed by a left to the body along the ropes with 1:09 left in the fifth. Howe was rocked for another standing eight-count with 20 seconds left in the round and was wobbling throughout the sixth. However, Stewart appeared too winded to do any more serious damage.

Stewart went back to the attack at the start of the seventh, lough, and referee Luis Rivera saw enough and stopped it 32 seconds into the round. Stewart is scheduled to fight former champion Tyson Sept. 22 in Atlantic City, New Jersey, as part of a double header.

BOXING

King rooted for Tyson in Japan, says Trump

NEW YORK, July 4. (Reuters) Billionaire Donald Trump, told a federal court yesterday that boxing promoter Don King was "probably rooting" for Mike Tyson when the former heavyweight boxing champion lost his title in a stunning 10th-round knockout by challenger James "Buster" Douglas last night.

Trump, who sat next to King at the February 11 fight in Tokyo, testified in the second day of a trial in Manhattan federal court hearing the promoter's \$27 million lawsuit against Douglas for breach of contract.

King acted as promoter for both fighters in the Tokyo bout. Douglas, who has filed his own suit against King in Las Vegas, contends that King's behaviour during and after the fight put the promoter in breach of their contract.

At a news conference after the shocking result, King questioned Douglas' right to the title, claiming that the challenger had benefited from a long count when he had been knocked down in the eighth round.

Trump said he did not notice, as the Douglas camp contends, that King was on his feet yelling for the fight to be stopped and Tyson named winner after Douglas received the alleged long count.

Yelling

"Everyone was standing at that point," Trump said. "I do not remember having heard him yelling."

The World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association versions of the heavyweight title, which had been withheld from Douglas' "streaking" protest, were both awarded to Douglas two days after the fight.

Trump said that during the fight he and King discussed Tyson's poor performance and informally agreed on a "handshake" contract to set up a rematch to June that would have replaced a planned June fight between Tyson and Evander Holyfield.

But Douglas and his manager John Johnson have refused to fight Tyson until Douglas makes a defence against Holyfield.

The Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas recently won a purse bid for a Douglas-Holyfield fight, scheduled for September, over the protests of King and Trump, who was expecting the Tyson-Douglas rematch to be at the Trump Plaza in Atlantic City.

In earlier testimony, Japan Boxing Commission president Shigeru Kojima said that King made a clear ringside protest to the referee on behalf of Tyson during the fight.

"I could understand from his gestures and from hearing the words 'long count,' said Kojima, who doesn't speak English.

Douglas is expected to take the stand next week.

Mets blank Astros

Strawberry hits two home runs



Strawberry is congratulated by teammates in the Shea Stadium dugout. (Reuters wirephoto)



Angels' Luis Polonia (right) dives back to first base. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK, July 4. (AP) Darryl Strawberry hit two of New York's four home runs, including a towering shot off the scoreboard, and Frank Viola became the National League's first 12-game winner as the Mets mashed the Houston Astros 12-0 last night.

Viola (12-3) pitched a five-hitter for his third shutout of the season. The Mets have won 23 baseball games overall and 11 of the last 12 at home. Houston has lost 15 of 16 on the road.

Viola beat Houston for the third time this season and got his 14th career shutout.

Reds 2, Expos 0
Tom Browning retired the first 16 batters and combined with Randy Myers on a three-hitter as the Cincinnati Reds beat Montreal, the Expos' sixth loss in seven games.

Browning (8-5), who pitched a perfect game in 1988 against Los Angeles, did not allow a runner until Spike Owen singled with one out in the sixth inning. Mike Fitzgerald and Junior Noboa singled in the eighth.

Myers relieved with one out in the ninth after Browning issued his first two walks. Myers got his 16th save, retiring Fitzgerald on a grounder with the bases loaded to end the game. Zane Smith (4-6) took the loss.

Phillies 5, Braves 1
Reliever Jeff Parrett pitched five innings in his first Major-League start and Dennis Cook got his first big-League save, leading the Philadelphia Phillies over the Atlanta Braves.

Parrett gave up one run on four hits, striking out five and walking three. He started in place of Ken Howell, who did not pitch because of pain in his right arm.

Parrett (3-6) earned his third victory of the season, all against Atlanta. He had not started since 1986 at Class AAA Indianapolis.

Cook allowed one hit in four innings. He lost his spot in the starting rotation earlier this season and was sent to the bullpen. Marty Clark (1-4) lost in his first start since May 24, a span of 10 relief appearances.

Twins 7, Red Sox 3
Rookie Kevin Tapani scattered seven hits in 7-1/3 innings and Garry Gaetti hit a two-run triple to help the Minnesota Twins beat the Boston Red Sox 7-3 last night.

Tapani (9-5) had a shutout until the eighth when the Red Sox scored on a one-out walk to Wade Boggs, Jody Read's single and pinch-hitter Kevin Romine's sacrifice fly.

Roger Clemens (12-4) lost for the second time in his last three decisions despite giving up just one earned run. He kept the Red Sox in the game until the sixth, when right fielder Brunansky dropped Kirby Puckett's two-out fly ball at the warning track, igniting a three-run rally.

The Red Sox lost for only the fifth time in 18 games and had their American League East lead sliced to 3-1-2 games over Toronto.

Blue Jays 5, Angels 2
Junior Felix hit a two-run single in the third inning and tripled and scored the lead run in Toronto's three-run fifth. Winner Todd Stoltz (9-7) gave up 10 hits and walked three in five innings but stranded 10 baserunners. He equalled his career-high with eight strikeouts.

Frank Wills pitched three innings but left after giving up a single to Johnny Ray and a double to Wally Joyner to start the ninth. Tom Henke notched his 14th save in 14 opportunities by retiring Dave Winfield and Max Venable on pop fouls and Lance Parrish on a grounder.

Results

American League				National League			
Cleveland	9	Seattle	4	Cincinnati	2	Montreal	0
Toronto	5	California	2	N.Y. Mets	12	Houston	0
Detroit	13	Chicago WS	5	Philadelphia	5	Atlanta	1
Minnesota	7	Boston	3	Pittsburgh	5	San Diego	3
Kansas City	6	N.Y. Yankees	1	Los Angeles	7	Chicago Cubs	6
Oakland	5	Milwaukee	2	San Francisco	4	St. Louis	6
Texas	7	Baltimore	2				

Britain outplay Taranaki

NEW PLYMOUTH, New Zealand, July 4. (Reuters) Britain beat a Taranaki Invitation Rugby League side 24-0 today, scoring four tries to none in an effort boosted by fine goalkicking by Paul Eastwood.

The British winger converted three of Britain's four tries and added a penalty. His best effort was a last minute conversion from the sideline.

The tourists adapted better to the muddy conditions, in an encouraging performance prior to the second Test against New Zealand in Auckland on Sunday.

Despite already losing on tour to New Zealand's three best provincial teams — Auckland, Wellington and Canterbury — Britain fielded a second string side against Taranaki.

The prospective Test squad remained in Auckland to prepare for their match against New

Zealand, with assistant coach Phil Larder taking just 15 players on the 300 km (190 mile) trip to New Plymouth.

Teams:
Britain — Chris Bihh, Paul Eastwood, Shaun Irwin, David Lyon, John Devereux, Roger Simpson, Deryck Fox (captain), Ian Lucas (replaced by Roy Powell), Martin Dermott, Karl Fairbank, Ian Smales, Gary Price, Phil Clarke, David Bishop (replaced by Martin Dermott).

Taranaki Invitation XIII — Dion Tumoana, Willie Tangira, Duane Gwiazdinski, David Watson, Blair Nixon, Phil Smith, Geoffrey Tangira, Robert Piva, Harvey Mason (replaced by Alan Jackson), Henry Katene, Charlie McAlister, Gary Kitto (replaced by Ment Martin), Barry Harvey (captain).

Soviets to send strong squad

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, July 4. (Reuters) Three world record holders grace the 91-member athletics team the Soviet Union is sending to the Goodwill Games later this month. The Athletics Congress announced yesterday.

Record-holding pole vaulter Sergei Bubka, women's long jumper Galina Chistyakova and women's shot putter Natalya Lisovskaya will spearhead the Soviet search for medals at the Games, which start on July 20 in Seattle, Washington.

Other notables on the Soviet team include Robert Emmyan, who has the second best long jump in history, and Sergei Litvinov, who set world records in the hammer three times in the 1980s and won the Olympic gold in Seoul.

Atherton and Fairbrother see Lancashire home

LONDON, July 4. (Reuters) England batsmen Mike Atherton and Neil Fairbrother helped Lancashire close the gap on leaders Middlesex in the English County Cricket Championship yesterday.

Atherton made 44 and Fairbrother 47 as Lancashire scraped home by three wickets against Kent at Maidstone.

Set 190 runs to win, Lancashire took wickets regularly but still woo with 14.5 overs to spare to climb into second place in the table with 116 points to Middlesex's 134.

The leaders were denied the fourth consecutive victory that would have given them a 34-point lead at the top as Damian

D'Oliveira and Phil Neale defiantly saved Worcestershire from defeat at Lord's.

Worcestershire seemed headed for defeat when they collapsed to 30 for three in their second innings, 148 behind.

But Graeme Hick led the revival with 80, sharing a fourth wicket partnership of 123 with D'Oliveira.

D'Oliveira and Neale put on 91 runs for the sixth wicket, with D'Oliveira unbeaten on 87 and Neale 41 not out.

Northamptonshire had a seven-wicket win over Somerset with opener Alan Fordham hitting 128 and Rob Bailey 101. Allan Lamb hit an unbeaten 64 as Northants rose to the

challenge of scoring 329 to win, reaching the target with 15 balls to spare.

Results

At Maidstone: Lancashire beat Kent by three wickets. Kent 237 in 83 overs and 201 (M. Atherton four for 23). Lancashire 249 in 78 overs and 193 for seven (M. Watkinson 66, N. Fairbrother 47, M. Atherton 44, R. Davis four for 54). Lancashire 22 points Kent six.

At Lord's Middlesex v Worcestershire match drawn. Middlesex 348 in 109.1 overs. Worcestershire 170 in 82 overs and 245 for five declared (D. D'Oliveira 87 out, G. Hick 80, P. Neale 41 out out). Middlesex eight points Worcester-

shire four.

At Taunton: Northamptonshire beat Somerset by seven wickets. Somerset 324 for six declared in 106 overs and 305 for six declared (S. Cook retired hurt 112, R. Lefebvre 53, P. Roehuck 44). Northamptonshire 301 for four declared in 81 overs and 332 for three (A. Fordham 128, R. Bailey 101, A. Lamb 64 not out). Northamptonshire 21 points Somerset five.

At Derby: Derbyshire v Gloucestershire match drawn. Derbyshire 72 in 33 overs and 346 for six declared (B. Roberts 59, C. Adams 48). Gloucestershire 114 in 52 overs and 204 for six (G. Hodgson 52, A. Wright 44). Derbyshire and Gloucester-

shire four points.

At Cardiff: Glamorgan v Surrey match drawn. Glamorgan 299 in 99.5 overs and 127 for five declared. Surrey 150 for one declared in 55 overs and 139 for six. Glamorgan three points Surrey five.

At Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire match drawn. Nottinghamshire 292 in 90.4 overs and 214 for one declared (C. Broad 112 not out, P. Robinson 69 not out). Leicestershire 236 for five declared in 75 overs and 242 for nine (J. Whitaker 83, J. Benson 62, L. Potter 48, K. Cooper five for 56). Nottinghamshire five points Leicestershire six.

Standings

English County Championship cricket table after matches which ended yesterday (tabular under played, won, lost, drawn, batting points, bowling points, total).

Middlesex	10	5	0	5	30	24	134
Lancashire	10	4	1	5	25	27	116
Warwickshire	10	4	2	4	22	28	114
Leicester	11	3	2	6	31	21	100
Hampshire	10	3	1	6	32	16	96
Gloucestershire	11	3	3	5	25	32	96
Nottingham	9	3	1	5	23	24	95
Derbyshire	10	3	3	4	27	19	94
Northants	9	3	2	5	25	29	86
Somerset	11	1	2	8	35	21	72
Kent	9	2	3	4	24	15	71
Yorkshire	9	2	4	3	16	33	71
Essex	8	1	1	6	30	9	55
Worcester	8	1	1	6	20	17	53
Surrey	9	0	1	8	19	26	53
Sussex	8	1	3	4	18	13	47
Gloucester	10	0	5	5	18	23	41



The Overland Transport Company team.

K & A break losing string

KAY & ASSOCIATES finally ended their 7-game losing streak with a 91-88 win over KCA-Bytes. It was a close game throughout the entire 40 minutes of play as neither of the teams had a clear advantage over the other. Half-time tally was 47-41 in favour of KCA-Bytes, who played without their No. 13, Cruz.

In the next 20 minutes of play, Kay & Associates though also missing the services of one of its key players (No. 19 Marin), fought hard and the combination of Quaison, Velayo, Kai, Alveda and Galang proved stable enough to get them past the KCA-Bytes team. Leading scorers for the winners were Velayo 24, Quaison 24, Kai 15, Alveda 13 and Galang 8. KCA-Bytes were led by Raebio 31, Monastriel 21, Castro 17 and Eadaya 11.

The Durrani Int'l Best Player of the Game award went to the "durable" Romeo Velayo for his steady performance during the entire game.

Nissan 105, NIC 91
Nissan Al Bahrain beat NIC 105-91 to hand the latter its 2nd straight loss in as many outings. Half-time score was 46-31 in favour of Nissan, who played minus its centre No. 10, Deira. Now sporting a 2 win-1 loss card (Group-B), Nissan was led by Ungco 26, Castillo 24, Delos Reyes 14, Calvelo 14 and Batac 10. In its gallant losing efforts, NIC was paced by Molina 37, Milanes 12, Villanueva 12 and Hufano 8.

Gery Ungco of the victorious Nissan Al Bahrain squad was named the Durrani Int'l Best Player of the Game.

Al Ghanim 74, Mahubay 73
Al Ghanim Freight & Travel bagged into the win column with a heart-stopping 74-73 win over an impressive Mahubay-Kamay quintet. Half-time tally was 37-27 in favour of Al Ghanim. In the next 20 minutes of play, Mahubay-Kamay got their act together and out-bid the Freight & Travel agents to put the game on a see-saw battle going into the last 2 minutes of the ballgame.

With time down to 16 seconds and Mahubay-Kamay protecting a 73-72 halftime lead, Al Ghanim's Ragodon scored a court to court winner to put his team on top 74-73. In the ensuing play Mahubay-Kamay managed to find open No. 14 man Dela Cruz who was intentionally fouled going into the hoop. It was almost a sure victory for the Mahubay-Kamay team as 2 free throws plus ball possession with time down to 2 seconds was awarded to them. However, pressure and bad luck bounded De la Cruz who muffed both his chances, and though his team was able to inbound the ball safely, time expired before they could make a shot. Registering their 1st win in 3 outings, Al Ghanim Freight & Travel were led by Ragodon 19, Go 18, Lahay 16, and Patel 9. In their hard-luck loss, the Restaurant-Artists was paced by Abad 28, Gonzaga 12, Cabigon 10 and Delos Santos 7.

The Durrani Int'l Best Player of the Game was Elie Ragodon of the winning Al Ghanim Freight & Travel team.

Al Wayne 113, Blue Star 73
In the 4th game of the day, Al Wayne handed down Al Ghanim Blue Star its 3rd straight loss in as many games. Final score 113-73. In the 1st 20 minutes of play, the Blue



Action shot of the Al Wayne-Blue Star game.

Stars gave the Al Wayne team a run for their money to the delight of the crowd. Al Wayne had their hands full in containing Al Ghanim's Sumangising and De Leon who scored 20 and 18 1st-half points respectively. Half-time score was 47-44 in favour of Al Wayne who was seemed vulnerable minus Calayac, Bahiera and Dayao.

In the next half, Al Wayne jumped the gun on the Blue Stars and poured on 66 points as compared to their opponents' measly 29. When the final buzzer ended, it was a 40-point win by Al Wayne, its 2nd win in as many games. Top scorers for the winners were Reyes 31, Garcia 22, Menez 17, Sacueza 17, Vargas 12 and Magallanes 8. Al Ghanim Blue Star with only 5 men scoring were led by Sumangising 36, De Leon 25, Galicia 6, Michael 4 and Patel 2.

Ronilo "Mat" Reyes playing the forward position for the winning team was chosen as the Durrani Int'l Best Player of the Game.

KPBC 100, Hasawi 79
KPBC Greek House notched win number 2 with a 100-79 triumph over the Hassawi Eagles. It was a more impressive win this time around by the 1st-Conference lister who were in disarray in their 1st outing against the Kirby squad, who almost beat them. Half-time tally was 49-36 in favour of KPBC Greek House who played with only 9 men.

In the next 20 minutes of play, the victors scored 51 points compared to Hassawi's 43, thus increasing their half-time edge of 13 to 21 final winning margin. Top scorers for the winners were De la Cruz 27, Zalavarría 23, Domingo 12, Santos 10, Arsof 10 and Bustria 8. The Hassawi Eagles were gallantly led by Saure 18, Tan 17, Santos 9, Garlano 9, and Dela Cruz 9.

The Durrani Int'l Best Player of the Game was Lilo de la Cruz of the KPBC Greek House Team.

Overland 101, Al Widad 67
In the 6th game of the day, Overland Transport Co. served notice of its serious bid to capture the 2nd-Conference plum with a 107-67 rout of the Al Widad/Capcom selection. Celebrating the arrival of its two (2) prized "back to Kuwait" recruits in the persons of Greg Lugo and Arnel Dingson (both formerly with the EEI team) plus having a new set of playing uniforms with matching shoes, bags and towels, Overland proved too much to handle for the hard fighting Al Widad dribblers.

During the early minutes of the game, Al Widad looked impressive as they managed to take control of the match. When Overland found

their bearings, there was no stopping the Truckers as they raced to a 18-points half-time lead (47-49), that ballooned to 40 points at the final buzzer. In its 3rd straight win in as many outings, Overland was paced by Tualdes 29, Ramalla 18, Lugo 17, Navarro 13, Velasco 12 and Dingson 6. Topmen for the Al Widad/Capcom selection were Ortiz Luis 24, Abedana 12, Carlos 10, and Guese 10.

Sansin "Sonny" Ramalla of Overland was voted as the Durrani Int'l Best Player of the Game.

KHC 154 Kirby 102
In the 7th and final match of the day, KHC-Bayan blasted Kirby Building Systems 154-102. It was an impressive 2nd win for the KHC dribblers as they established a new KPBL record in "most points scored in a single game". Half-time tally was 71-51 in favour of KHC who pounded the hapless Kirby cagers with no mercy. Actually, Kirby didn't do so bad. They even led 8-0 in the early minutes of the 1st half. After a quick timeout by the beleaguered KHC quintet, things were never the same again for the Kirby squad. KHC-Bayan utilized a mid-court trapping defence that ultimately sealed the fate of its opponent. Clearly, the inexperience of the Kirby squad was evident as both players and coaching staff of the team failed to devise means to offset such a kind of smothering defence. Top point makers for KHC-Bayan were Mr X-Ortega 45, Rector 22, Ahubo 20, Calles 20, Camacho 11, Ong 10, and Guinto 8. Kirby, on the other hand, were led by Delagencia 35, Geronimo 28, Garcia 15 and Vidallo 12.

The Durrani Int'l Best Player of the Game was Sanlago "Mr X" Ortega of the victorious KHC-Bayan team.

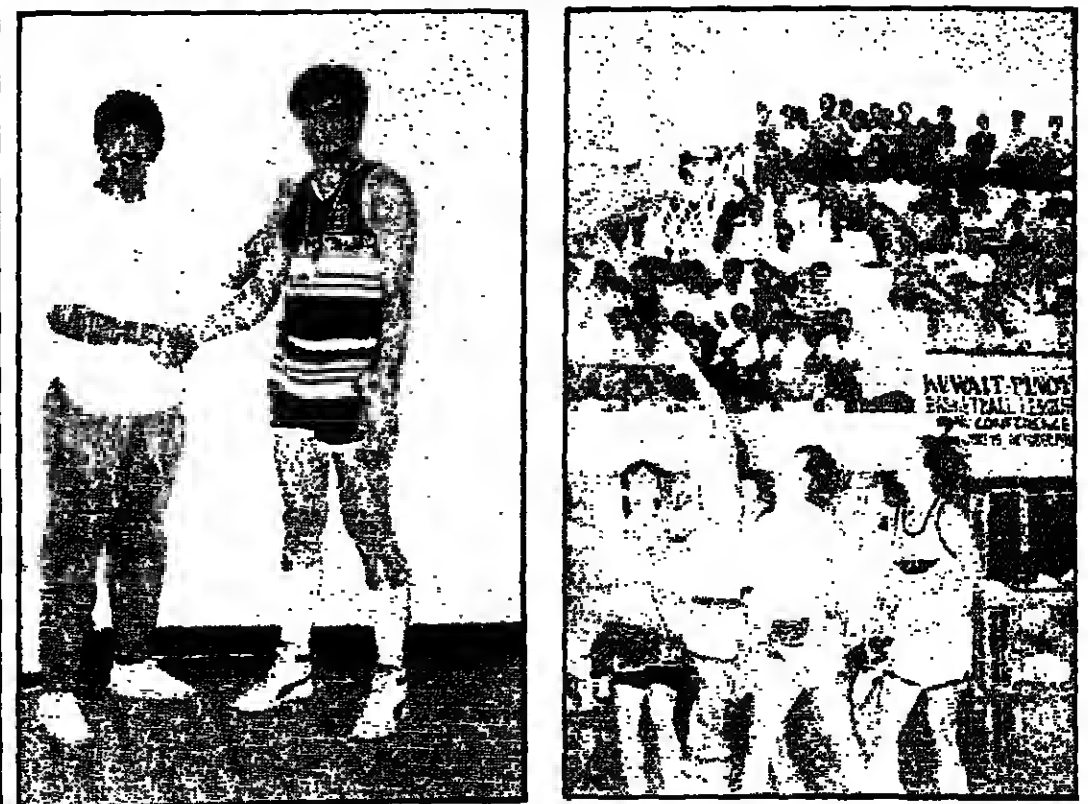
Games schedules for Friday-July 6, 1990

Basketball
8:00 am Kuwait International Hotel vs. National Industries Co.
9:30 am Kuwait Regency Palace vs Kirby Building Systems

11:00 am BES Engineering vs RP Team/Try-Outs Kuwait (exhibition match)
(2:30 pm KHC-Bayan vs KCA-Bytes)

2:00 pm Al Widad/Capcom vs Kaleco
3:30 pm KPBC Greek House vs Mahubay-Kamay
5:00 pm Trend Wave vs Pizza Italia.

Darts (starting at 9:00 am)
1. Mahubay Restaurant vs SAS Hotel
2. Al Wayne vs Kamay
3. D'Bug vs KHC-Bayan



Reyes (right) of Al Wayne receives his award. Right: an action shot at the Hasawi-KPBC game.



Alan Fordham



Neil Fairbrother



Damian D'Oliveira



Phil Neale

Soviets and Hungarians tie for chess tourney lead

MANILA, July 4, (Reuters): Vassily Ivanchuk and Boris Gelfand of the Soviet Union beat their fifth round opponents today and shared the lead with two Hungarians at a Manila chess tournament to decide challengers for the 1993 World Championship.

Ivanchuk launched a mating attack to force Pedrag Nikolic of Yugoslavia to

resign in 36 moves, while Gelfand defeated Frenchman Joel Lautier in 55. Hungarians Lajos Portisch and Gyula Sax drew in 22 moves and held on to first place after five rounds with four points each, tied with Ivanchuk and Gelfand.

Soviet defector Viktor Korchnoi, playing for Switzerland, defeated Boris Gulko of the United States in 51 moves

and was tied at 3.5 points with Mikhail Gurevich and Leonid Yudasin of the Soviet Union, Kiril Georgiev of Bulgaria, Branko Damjanovic of Yugoslavia and Lautier.

Gurevich, one of the world's top 10 players, drew with Georgiev in 40 moves while Yudasin beat 18-year-old Michael Adams of England in 47 moves.

"I had some initiative but I couldn't evaluate the position properly because it was quite hot," said Portisch, eight-time candidate for the world championship.

The top 11 players among the 64 participants in the 13-round Swiss style competition will qualify for the candidates matches, last stage of the eliminations to choose the challenger for the world title.

Alangre outlasts Crispin

ROGER ALANGRE came back from a slow start to beat Isidoro Crispin 9-8 at the start of the consolation round of the 1990 All-Filipino Tennis Tournament at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Monday. Isidoro was well ahead of the game but was caught up by Roger in force a tie-break at 8-all and finish the match.

Moises Belardo showed more power when he defeated Arturo Arvizu 9-4. Freddy Paguyo, who was improving on his serve and net play capitalised on the numerous double faults of Julio Alberto to win 9-5. Lito Ramos beat Willy Reyes 9-5. Willy put on a good fight with several winning passing shots down the line but Lito outpaced the slower Willy.

Joey Jalandoni had trouble with his serve due to strong winds and bowed to Romy Pico 2-9. Cesar Briones won by default over Peter Cabanero. Fer Arcangel likewise won by default over Alex Martinez.

Emil Casido with his stylish head-band survived the fighting serve and forehand of Honorio Orlado to win 9-2. Emil didn't give up so easily and even went to the other court just to retrieve a ball. Nicanor Ruiz was in good form and never gave Abraham Delizo a chance to get into the match 9-3. Van Dejaso and Raul Basia both defaulted on their match and their quarterfinal opponent Nick Ruiz will go to the semifinal without a fight from either of them.

A long match was between Rolly Quider and Van John Villacillo. Long rallies marked the match and neither played giving up a point without a fight. Rolly eventually prevailed 9-8. Butch Samaco, one of the fastest first server in the tournament, overcame Ben Gonzales 9-3. Gene Nuevo overpowered Edmundo Abayon who had trouble with his serve, 9-4. Rod Mendoza went to the court unprepared and therefore lost to Ernie Lagman by default. Jake Salvador defeated Alfredo Buzon 9-4. Alfredo broke the string of his racket and could not get back on the game after that.

In the continuation of second round matches, Ed Samia put up a giant fight as he stretched Jess Rafer to third set. It was a battle of topspinners. Ed lost most to the third set and also the match 6-4, 4-6, 0-6. Joy Valerio was well ahead in the first set and his topspin forehand was serving him well. However, Nick Villar got his rhythm and finally overpowered Joy 7-5, 6-4.

Proving

It was another big day for Ato Kagayutan as he beat Carito Baginda 6-3, 6-7, 6-3 proving once again the effectiveness of his unorthodox play. Ato played well on the net making Carito run the entire court most of the time. It was a star-studded match complete with video tape, Jun Dianin won over Norbie Manabat 6-4, 6-2. Jun's powerful forehand and serve was effective against the consistent southpaw. Arnel San Diego won by default over Rene Villante.

In doubles, it was a tension-filled match between Benjie Aldecoa/Surley Lago versus Larry Duque/Carito Baginda. It was a long day for Carito as he played doubles after 10 minutes rest from his second round loss to Ato Kagayutan. But Larry's very fast topspin serve seemed unreturnable as he served several aces. Compounding the problem was Surley's first serve which was just not coming in. Benjie and Surley survived a first set tie-break to win the match 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

Second round matches will continue today and tomorrow. Schedule of matches on Thursday is as follows: 5 pm — E. Lagman/B. Samaco vs R. Basia/H. Orlado, E. Llanes vs R. Urot; 6 pm — H. Tampus vs B. Clemeno, R. Carandang vs S. Perez; 7 pm — D. Felix vs R. Rodriguez, G. Orlado vs D. Talavera, 8 pm — A. De la Cruz vs S. Lago.

On Friday, July 6, 5 pm — D. Catacutan vs R. Mercado, F. Pentecoste vs G. Sanes; 6 pm — D. Acido vs E. Latoreno, R. Dalenue vs N. Salanueva; 7 pm — H. Mendoza vs L. Duque, B. Aldecoa vs L. Lumayag; 8 pm — O. Caballangan vs R. Ventura, J. Valeria/E. Samia vs N. Ruiz/L. Ramos.

The final matches will be on August 3. After the men's singles match, the awarding and Players Barbecue Night will follow at the Holiday Inn Hotel poolside. Lots of raffle prizes will be given away by sponsors and donors. For particulars and tickets, see the organizers.

This tournament is organized by Kay and Associates Tennis Club.

Becker blasts Gilbert

Edberg thrashes Bergstrom

LONDON, July 4, (Reuters): Defending champion Boris Becker made light of a potentially hazardous encounter with American seventh seed Brad Gilbert to move ominously into the semifinals at a wet and windy Wimbledon today.

After play eventually started over four hours late because of rain, the second-seeded Becker swept to a comfortable 6-4 6-4 6-1 victory to join 1988 champion Stefan Edberg in the last four.



Becker had an easy game



Edberg reaches semifinals

Edberg also conceded only nine games, beating fellow Swede Christian Bergstrom 6-3 6-2 6-4 to reach the Wimbledon semifinals for the fourth successive year.

Becker found himself posted to the wilds of court two, the traditional "graveyard of champions", when officials rearranged the schedule after the rain delay, but speedily laid the challenge of Gilbert to rest in 95 minutes.

The West German, in an obvious hurry to find the nearest television set showing the World Cup semifinal between his country and England, survived break points in each of his first two service games and grew in confidence as the match progressed.

Gilbert, who had previously beaten Becker four times in seven meetings but never on grass, found it hard to reproduce the solid form that is his trademark.

He broke the famous Becker service once in the sixth game of the first set but thereafter it was one-way traffic.

The champion, blowing on his fingers after each winner like an old gun-slinger, engineered a crucial break in the ninth game of the second set and when Gilbert was broken again in the first game of the third, there was only one winner.

Third seed Edberg was never unduly stretched by the unseeded Bergstrom, ranked 98th in the world and the conqueror of French 11th seed Guy Forget in the previous round.

Until the last set, when there were seven breaks of serve in the first eight games, Edberg's volleying proved decisive in a match of few rallies.

Martina Navratilova passed another milestone yesterday when she eclipsed Chris Evert's record for singles victories at Wimbledon.

Hadlee set for final Test

BIRMINGHAM, England, July 4, (Reuters): Richard Hadlee has just five days, beginning tomorrow, in which to push his record tally of Test wickets further out of reach of his rivals.

After that the world's greatest quick bowler will quit the Test arena he has graced for almost two decades.

The third and final Test between England and New Zealand at Edgbaston is a fitting setting for the farewell appearance of the only cricketer to be knighted while still playing the game.

With 423 Test wickets to his name, Hadlee will inevitably be the key figure in New Zealand's hopes of a victory which would clinch the series after the first two Tests were wrecked by rain.

A win for England would give them their first home series triumph since 1985.

Paceman Angus Fraser could make a dramatic England return on the ground where he launched his international career 12 months ago. The 24-year-old seamer will come into contention for the deciding Test if Philip DeFreitas fails to recover from a virus.

DeFreitas was confined to England's hotel today with a temperature and upset stomach while the rest of the squad were forced to practise indoors because of rain.

"We'll have to see how Daffy (DeFreitas) is in the morning," said team manager Mickey Stewart. "But if we bring Fraser into the 12 then he'll have as much chance of playing as anyone else."

Fraser, out of Test action for three months since straining a rib muscle in the West Indies, was originally asked to go to Birmingham for extra training.

But the lion-hearted paceman would relish the prospect of coming to England's aid at Edgbaston, where he claimed four for 63 on his debut against Australia last year.

"Gus was not included in the squad for this match because we felt he had not done enough work following his injury," said Stewart. "But since then he has got another game under his belt for Middlesex over the weekend."

His return to the brink of selection might leave Stewart and captain Graham Gooch facing a tricky problem. Leicestershire all-rounder Chris Lewis, still waiting for a Test debut after being made 13th man at Trent Bridge and Lord's, would expect first claim on DeFreitas's place.

Teams (from): England — Graham Gooch (capt), Mike Atherton, Alec Stewart, Allan Lamb, Robin Smith, Neil Fairbrother, Jack Russell, Phil DeFreitas, Gladstone Small, Eddie Hemmings, Devon Malcolm, Chris Lewis, Angus Fraser.

New Zealand — John Wright (capt), Trevor Franklin, Andrew Jones, Martin Crowe, Mark Greatbatch, Ken Rutherford, Richard Hadlee, John Bracewell, Ian Smith, Adam Parore, Martin Snedden, Danny Morrison, Mark Priest.



Richard Hadlee

Fignon bids farewell to Tour de France

ROUEN, France, July 4, (Reuters): Dutchman Gerrit Solleveld won the 301-km fifth stage of the Tour de France from Avranches today, as France's Laurent Fignon dropped out of the longest Tour stage since 1969 with an ankle injury.

Canada's Steve Bauer, who retained the overall leader's yellow jersey for the fourth day running, did not seem especially relieved by the Frenchman's withdrawal.

"It won't change anything. We talked

about it with Greg (Lemond) only yesterday, and he told me, 'Look at Fignon, I bet he will withdraw before the end of the tour,'" he said.

The 29-year-old Parisian was not the sole victim of this marathon stage.

An exhausted Marco Giovannetti of Italy, winner of the Tour of Spain and third in the Giro d'Italia last month, also quit 80 kms before the finish.

As Fignon flew off in a helicopter, Solleveld broke away on his own — and stayed in front

for 90 kms.

The Dutchman, winner of the Ghent-Wevelgem Classic this year, crossed the line in seven hours 43 minutes and seven seconds.

Compatriot Johan Museeuw, winner of the previous stage at Le Mont Saint-Michel, broke away from the bunch in the last stretch to snatch second place four minutes and 27 seconds later, with Belgian Etienne de Wilde third in the same time.



Buenos Aires residents celebrate in the streets. (Reuters wirephoto)

Argentines go wild

BUENOS AIRES, July 4, (Reuters): Jubilant Argentines poured into the streets of Buenos Aires yesterday in a frenzied celebration as the reigning champions defeated Italy in a heart-stopping penalty shoot-out to reach the World Cup final.

"We won playing football, moving the ball around ... opening up the game ... it was an exceptional show," soccer fanatic President Carlos Menem said at Government House as officials and aides hugged him cheering "Argentina, Argentina."

Outside, the streets looked as if they had been struck by a snowstorm as clouds of teargas thrown from police blocks built up on sidewalks and dangled from trees.

Traffic halted as crowds of fans waving flags, beating bass drums, blowing horns and letting off firecrackers staged victory parades when Argentina stunned the favourites 4-3 on penalty kicks after the match ended at 1-1 despite extra time.

"It's madness it's just like when we first won the Cup in 1978," said one delirious fan who had rushed to the Obelisk monument in the city centre where Argentines traditionally gather to celebrate sports victories.

In bars, restaurants and cafes complete strangers hugged and kissed each other. Television commentators burst into tears in front of cameras when goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea clinched victory with his second save in the penalty shoot-out.

Commenting on Goycochea's performance, Menem said: "It wasn't luck. He has saved four penalty shots in two games. And that's not luck."

Police used water cannons and tear-gas yesterday to disperse hooligans in Buenos Aires, disrupting the massive celebrations.

"Armoured vehicles swept up and down some of the city's main streets and avenues, flushing revelers into side streets after bands of young men clashed with policemen in riot gear, throwing rocks and stones and trying to overturn motorcars."

Menem told the state news agency Telam that 30 people were arrested, while private radio stations quoting police sources said more than 200 had been detained. No injuries were immediately reported.

"They were perfectly organised groups which came downtown to loot shops," Menem said. "But it is all under control now."

Witnesses said trouble started after looters broke the windows of a central jeweller. Revellers fled quickly from Buenos Aires' landmark Obelisk, as soon as the first canister of tear-gas were thrown into the crowd.

Police used tear gas and batons in Turin to disperse stone-throwing Italian and English youths in overnight fighting before England's World Cup semifinal against West Germany this evening.

Police said they briefly detained between 30 and 40 Italians to "cool the situation" and were considering whether to charge some with public order offences.

No-one was injured and no English fans were held, a spokesman said. The late-night clash occurred at around 2 am outside a heavily-policed camp site provided by the authorities for about 2,000 English fans in a park in Turin.

Eyewitnesses said English supporters built a barricade across one entrance to the camp and set fire to it, apparently out of fear that the Italians were trying to storm the site.

A police spokesman said a few dozen Italians were involved in the fighting but could not give numbers of English.

"It all ended without too much trouble," the spokesman said, adding that he could not say who started the fighting.

The residents of the Sicilian city of Messina, where World Cup hero Salvatore Schillaci played in the Second Division, had a double dose of back luck last night.

Not only did the city where Schillaci came of age in his soccer career have to swallow the bitter pill of Italy's semifinal defeat by Argentina — they could not watch the match on television either.

A blackout cut electricity to the most of the city before the match began and power was not restored until it was over.

The Messinese, for whom Schillaci has become a virtual patron saint, listened to the match on radios.

Cameroon, pride of Africa for their performance in the World Cup, should play Africa's other soccer giant — Egypt — in a match to help anti-apartheid groups, a South African radical said yesterday.

"Egypt and Cameroon should



Argentine policemen drag a demonstrator away after riots. (Reuters wirephoto)



Italian fans shout out their frustration in downtown Turin after Italy's defeat. (Reuters wirephoto)



Police officers escort arrested Italian fans after they attacked an English supporters camp in Turin. (Reuters wirephoto)



Police officers break up fights between Italian and Argentine fans. (Reuters wirephoto)

play a benefit match, with proceeds to liberate movements. Ahmed Gora Ebrahim, a representative of the radical pan-Africanist congress, told African foreign ministers meet-

(Also see Page 22)